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January 2016

January LLI Forum

Institute Network

Tuesday, January 5, 2016, at 10 a.m.

NOTE: Tuesday

(Social Time at 9:30 a.m.)

What Can Snowball Earth Teach Us About Modern Climate Change? A Distinguished Science Educator Speaks About the Dynamic, Dramatic Planet We Live On.

ow do scientists know what the Earth's climate was millions of years ago? Why has the Earth alternated between extremes of a "hot house" and an "ice house", and how have these climate changes influenced the plants and animals on our planet? Our speaker,



Callan Bentley

Professor Callan Bentley, is a structural geologist, specializing in the evolution of mountain belts, paleontology, and climate science. His presentation will include the extended periods of "Snowball Earth," when glaciers covered much of the Earth's surface. Learning about Snowball Earth and the other climatic periods gives insight into the fragility of our planet and its adaptability.

Professor Bentley has been teaching at the NOVA Annandale campus since 2005. In 2012, he received the Virginia Community College Chancellor's Award for Teaching Excellence, which is quite an honor because each year only one college teacher is selected out of the 23 community college campuses throughout Virginia. Then in 2015, he was recognized as an outstanding college teacher by the council that coordinates all higher education in Virginia. Professor Bentley's studies have taken him to 30 countries and all 50 states, and he leads summer field courses in areas such as Montana, Texas, the Canadian Rockies, and California.

Continued on page 2

Honor Circle: Ed McKnight

fter joining LLI in
August 2004 and taking
classes for several years,
Ed McKnight realized
he was just taking and not giving
back. Among his impressive list
of accomplishments since
becoming an active LLI
volunteer, Ed:



Ed McKnight

- was on the Curriculum Committee for more than five years, has taught classes, and still recommends and coordinates classes.
- > served on the Nominating Committee for two years.
- joined the Scholarship Committee in 2008 and is still a committee member.
- > served as Scholarship Committee Chairman for one year when the chairman had to quit because of illness.
- > was elected to the Board of Directors and served six years. While on the Board he:
 - served two years as the SIG representative.
 - chaired the Budget and Finance Committee for two years.
 - served two years as Vice President.
 - served two years as President.
- > currently is serving a seventh year on the Board as Immediate Past President.
- ➤ is tasked with developing an updated LLI Strategic Plan.

Ed is one of LLI's best recruiters of new members, many of whom he met at the gym. LLI members who have worked with him appreciate his sense of humor, making it easier to deal with "trying" situations.

When asked what LLI means to him, Ed said, "LLI addresses many of the things I find important for a quality life: mental activity and challenge, social interaction, travel, and an opportunity to give back to my community in a meaningful way."

Any project he was asked to lead had results that were both thorough and substantive. We applaud and thank Ed for the many contributions he has made, and continues to make, to LLI.

Calendar of Events

January 2016

- **5** Forum
- 6 February newsletter deadline
- 8 Board Meeting
- **19** February newsletter mailing

March 2016

- **2** Forum
- 9 April newsletter deadline
- 11 Board meeting
- 21 April newsletter mailing

February 2016 April 2016

- 3 Forum
- 10 March newsletter deadline
- **12** Board Meeting
- 22 March newsletter mailing
- **6** Forum
- 6 May Newsletter deadline
- 8 Board meeting
- 18 May newsletter mailing



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

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 email address or a change in mailing address and/or telephone number. Notify the office by phone at 703-503-0600, or e-mail at *llinova.admn@gmail.com*.

LLI Board of Directors

President: George Chalou
Vice President: Scott Pinckney
Secretary: Susan Alexander
Treasurer: Charles Hulick
Past President: Ed McKnight

Members: Phil Centini 18 *, Anna Dixon 17, Delsa Hildebrandt 17, Robert Huley 18, Nancy Jerdan 16, Sheri Masek 18, HB 'Buck' Myers 17, Phil Myers 16, Kathryn O'Toole 17, Arline Sachs 16, Karren Scott 16

* year term ends

Administrator: Janice Viola 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

Suzanne Adato, 4421 Park Road, Alexandria, VA, 22312, 703 354-2540, *suzadato@gmail.com*

Noralea Dalkin, 13113 Melrae Court, Fairfax, VA 22033, 703 631-8879, ndalkin@yahoo.com

Lyn Frew, 7408 Spring Village Drive, Apt. 305, Springfield, 22150, 703 852-1885, *lynfrew@yahoo.com*

Michael Gorman, 8305 Briar Creek Drive, Annandale, VA 22003, 703 978-5594, mbgorman1@cox.net

Jerome Liess, 8702 Queen Elizabeth Blvd, Annandale, VA 22003, 703 978-5168, *jliess@cox.net*

Bonnie Nelson, 5725 Waters Edge Landing Court, Burke, VA 22015, bonniebowmannelson@gmail.com

Sally Roth, 8618 Kenilworth Drive, Springfield, VA 22151, 703 978-8167, *swroth99@aol.com*

Jim Winn, 8280 Private Lane, Annandale, VA 22003, 703 426-9696

Update

Marie Baglio, (h) 703 532-4285, (c) 703 639-7605

Yolanda, DuBois, yolanda.dubois@gmail.com

Michael Hardin, michael.a.hardin44@gmail.com

Robert & Margaret Miniter, 401 Holland Lane Apt 1020, Alexandria, VA 22314



January LLI Forum

Continued from page 1

Professor Bentley loves teaching and sees himself as "a catalyst for students' personal voyage of discovery." Bring your curiosity and your questions to the January Forum.

Please Note: Parking is free on the campus for the January 5th Forum. If space is available, you may park free in the visitors' garage or, without a permit, anywhere in **student lots B.** Please come early if a close in parking space is important to you as NOVA students chose these free garage spaces, requiring LLI members to park farther away. Paid parking will resume January 29.

President's Message

s we begin 2016, I look back on a turbulent but successful 2015. As president of LLI, I began the year with open heart surgery. The operation was a blip in my life, as I recovered quickly and feel better than ever. LLI's administrator of many years, Laura Charron, resigned in June, which meant a search for someone to take her place. In September, we hired Janice Viola to be our new administrator and feel lucky to find someone with her competence.

Our new Trip Committee has done an outstanding job and we have been fortunate to have five trips since September: Nationals Park, Fallingwater, Library of Congress, Congressional Cemetery, and Holidays in Baltimore.

We concluded the year with another wonderful Holiday Party and I thank **Bonnie Hopler** and her committee. The theme was "The Warmth of the Holidays Begins in the Kitchen" and we hope your holidays are filled with warmth.

I thank **Joseph Pincus** for finding quality speakers for the Forum meetings. And thanks, also, to all the board members, the different committees and our editors for their many volunteer hours. LLI is the successful organization it is because of their hard work.

We begin 2016 trying to recover money spent on an automation contract. The company has not fulfilled its obligation to LLI and we will go to small claims court on January 8. The LLI Board has fully supported this decision. Whatever the outcome, we are fighting for winning back your hard earned membership dollars.

George Chalou, President



Cancellations Due to Inclement Weather

If the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) cancel school for the day due to inclement weather, all LLI classes, special interest groups (SIGs), and Forums are cancelled regardless of location. LLI morning activities are cancelled if the FCPS announces a 2-hour delay in class openings; LLI afternoon activities are cancelled if the FCPS announces early dismissal. Trips and social events will take place unless cancelled at the leaders' directions.

Community Outreach

Carol Weber, caroljeanweber@hotmail.com Marianne Moerman, marianne.c.moerman@gmail.com

Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO) will receive our January food donations. ECHO is an all-volunteer organization serving those in need in Burke and Springfield. They provide food and financial help to people with short-term

emergencies and give clothes and household items to people with low incomes. Formed in 1968, ECHO today is supported by 27 member congregations of all faiths, as well as by individuals and organizations in the community who are aware of ECHO's activities. Last year, ECHO volunteers served 5,120 family members, disbursed more than \$250,000 in direct client financial assistance for critical needs, and distributed nearly 212,000 pounds of food and 4,500 bags of clothing and household items. These were the highest numbers ever recorded in ECHO's statistical summaries and reflect an overwhelming need for basic services in our community.

ECHO's food pantry is especially in need of canned meats and tuna, pancake mix and syrup, flour, sugar, powdered milk, vegetable oil, tea and coffee, and juice (large bottles or individual boxes). They would also be grateful for donations of personal care items such as shampoo, shaving cream, deodorant, toothpaste, and laundry detergent. Anna Dixon will deliver our donations.

According to Bread for the World (Nov. 2015), the latest government report on food insecurity shows that childhood hunger in the U.S. has not changed, with one in five children still living in a family that struggles to get enough to eat. Our donations to local food pantries continue to be an important lifeline for many families.

Thank you for caring and sharing!



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

In January, we plan to play on **Thursday, January 14**, and **Wednesday, January 20**. In February, we will play on **Wednesday, February 10**, and **Thursday, February 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 703-534-4819, or email me (roberthuley@cox.net), if you would like to attend (or for more information) so that we can provide sufficient card tables.

Recent Results

Let's do a little catch up on results. The top four players at the October 14 game were Jessica Burmester, Mary Ann Craft, Nate Rosenbaum, and Bob Huley; for our game on October 28, the top four were Connie Fullerton, Raymond Burmester, Jessica Burmester, and Arline Sachs; for our game on November 12, the top four finishers were Connie Fullerton, Nate Rosenbaum, Jessica Burmester, and Lynda Brittain; and finally for our game on November 18, the top four were Nate Rosenbaum, Connie Fullerton, Joyce Moncrieff, and Carole Compton. Congratulations to all and Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.



LLI Current Events Discussion Group

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

Date/Time: Fridays, Jan. 8, Feb. 5, Mar. 4, Apr. 1 and May 6, 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.



LLI Favorite Books Club

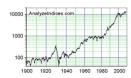
Lynne Smaldone, 703-525-9623 smaldonega@hotmail.com

Date/Time: Thursday, January 21, 11:30 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.

Location: Braddock District Governmental Center, 9002 Burke Lake Road (Supervisor's Meeting Room, on the backside of King's Park Library)

Our selection this month is Anthony Doerr's *All The Light We Cannot See*, a novel that won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 2014. The story is about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. Deftly interweaving the lives of Marie Laurent and Werner, it illuminates the ways in which, against all odds, people try to be good to one another.

Come join us!



Financial Discussion Group

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

Date/Time: Fridays in 2016, January 8, February 12, March 11, April 8, and May 13, 1:30 — 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 LLIers as we try to figure out the market's financial matters and discuss our options. Hope to see you there.



LLI French Conversation Group

Patty & Richard Steelman, (703)504-6866 richardsteelman@hotmail.com

Date/Time: Tuesday, January 19, 10:00 a.m. — noon

Class is cancelled on **Jan. 5**, **2016** due to conflict with the Forum on the

same date.

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

Under the expert guidance of Al Brothers, we will continue to increase our French language skills and also our appreciation of French culture with the program *French in Action*, Leçon #40.



LLI Gourmands

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

GIN HAI A-ROI! The Gourmands are headed to Asia January 15 at 12:00 for a luncheon at Duangrat's, one of the area's most venerable and best Thai restaurants. Please join us and enjoy a family style feast that will include a selection of appetizers and entrees in a timelessly elegant setting with the wait staff adorned in colorful silk gowns. For this event, we will not be ordering from the menu. Instead there will be a fixed price of \$14 per person (not including drinks) and individual checks will be provided. This promises to be a great introduction to Thai food for those who are not familiar with the cuisine. Duangrat's is located at 5878 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA, 22041 and parking is plentiful. Its website is www.duangrats.com. Patti Volz is hosting this event. Please RSVP directly to pattivolz@verizon.net, or (703) 892-6124 no later than January 11. As always, should you have any questions regarding the SIG, please contact your co chairs; pattivolz@verizon.net or linda.cvr@verizon.net.



LLI Photography Group

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

Date/Time: Friday, January 15, 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 or area of interest decided by the group and include display and discussion of photos taken by members based on a monthly theme. Recent meetings have focused on getting the most out of your camera, editing and organizing techniques for digital pictures, and photographic themes such as Creative Cropping, Patterns, Autumn Leaves and Faces. Come join the group if you have an interest in photography. New members are always welcome.

Deadline for the February newsletter is January 6.



LLI Walkabouts

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

Date/Time: Fridays at noon.

January 8: Burke Lake, 7315 Ox Road — From Braddock Rd. west, take

Burke Lake Rd. south until Rt. 123 (Ox Rd). Turn left and 2nd left is the park entrance. Stay to the right and park in the parking lot closest to the lake. We can meet at the restrooms close by. We can decide which way we want to walk around the lake. We will not be able to complete the circuit unless people want to walk more than an hour.

January 22: Lake Barcroft — Walk around Lake Barcroft. Neighborhood is not friendly to visitors, so we stick to the road. Take Columbia Pike to Sleepy Hollow Rd. Take a left on Fern Lane and park there. Meet at the corner of Sleepy Hollow and Fern.

I believe that the Christmas spirit will still be going on, and it would be nice to walk through the snow!

Happy Hiking!

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 the LLI office and they will send you a new one; a replacement lanyard has a fee of \$1.00.

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 Page 2 of the newsletter. This will help keep your directory up to date with changes that occur between the annual directory issuance dates.

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.

Study Travel

f you are interested in an exciting travel adventure in 2017, please join the Study/Travel group immediately following the January 5th Forum as we review the initial analysis of the top destinations nominated by members at the November meeting. Will we travel to Scotland, France, Cuba, or one of the other top candidates? The choice is yours. Before the meeting, we hope to send a copy of the analysis to those on the Study/Travel email list.

For anyone interested in joining our 2016 trips, Switzerland/Austria or Iceland, please contact Bob Huley, as indicated below, to be placed on the informal wait-list. You will be notified if space becomes available. For more information regarding these trips, go to the LLI website or contact Bob.

To join the Study Travel email list and get advance notification of Study Travel activities, please contact Bob at 703-534-4819, or *roberthuley@cox.net*. If you would like to join the Study Travel Committee and help analyze destinations and available tours for future trips, please let Bob know.

Happy Traveling!



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 renewal in our database.

Scholarship Committee

Because we continue to make progress in collecting funds for the scholarship program, this will be the last request for donations for this year. If you have not yet contributed to this worthwhile cause, please consider doing so now. Scholarship awards will be presented at the May Forum. There will be at least one award for a minimum of \$2,000 for leadership and another \$2,000 for academic achievement. While the academic achievement award is need-based, the leadership award is based on outstanding leadership, plus scholarship, but does not require showing a financial need. Donations already exceed the amounts indicated above, so we will either award additional scholarships or increase the amounts for these two. Tuition is quite high, even in a community college, so every donation helps.

If you have any questions or would like to serve on the committee to help select the deserving students, please contact Arline Sachs, *sachs@nova.org*, or 703-646-5606.

Course Catalog Changes

16W43A — What Does It Mean to be "Good"? Practicing Individual Ethics Today will now meet:

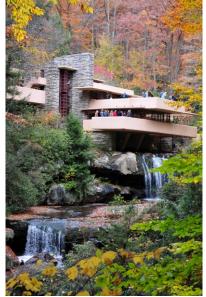
Thursday, March 31, 2016, instead of Friday, April 22. The location and time remain the same: Ernst Cultural Center (CE) (Seminar Rooms), NOVA Annandale from 10:00 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.

Congressional Cemetery Trip



Congressional Cemetery, November 3, 2015.

From the LLI Scrapbook



LLI Trips





Apple, Kentuck Knob



Fallingwater

LLI Holiday Party Collage





Lifetime Learning Institute of Northern Virginia

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