

Need Help to Process All the Information That Comes Your Way?

Come to the Forum meeting on Monday, September 8, 2003, when Dr. Star Muir will offer a critical perspective on assessing and processing the vast amount of information that reaches us through various channels. Dr. Muir is an associate professor of communications at George Mason University. He has a Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Communication from the University of Pittsburgh, and his research focuses on environmental communication.

We hope to see you at 10:00 a.m. (refreshments available at 9:30) at the

Do You Know an LLI Member Who Should Receive a Card?



One of the benefits of membership in LLI is making new friends. We like to show our friendliness and concern for fellow members by sending a card to

anyone who is ill or has suffered a loss. As the volunteer who has the responsibility for sending a card from LLI, I need your help to keep up with everyone now that our membership has exceeded 300. If you are aware of any problem that a member (or member's family) is having, please let me know, and I will make sure they hear from LLI. You can reach me by phone at (703) 978-2122 or by e-mail: bagle@erols.com, or you can see me at the monthly Forum; I am always happy to talk with other members. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Barbara Evans

Lunch Bunch

The September 8 Lunch Bunch will meet at **Squire Rockwell's Restaurant** for our September 8 luncheon. The restaurant is conveniently located not far from the NOVA campus and has a buffet special as well as menu selections. **Directions from NOVA:** Turn left on Little River Turnpike (toward Fairfax) to Prosperity Avenue; right on Prosperity and right again at the Exxon station to the restaurant which is behind the gas station. John Bogart will be on a Volga River cruise, so his wife Elaine will be sitting in for him.

Help the Hospitality Committee

Many thanks to the 36 LLI members who brought cookies and other finger food for the Forum meetings from September 2002 through June 2003. The nearly empty table at the end of each meeting is an indication of how much your refreshments are enjoyed!

We need volunteers to provide goodies for the Forum meetings on October 6 and November 3. If you can help, please call Jane Jones at (703) 799-7812.

The Hospitality Committee: Jane Jones, Bo Kelly, Noreen Wayland.

Day Trip Update

- Every effort will be made to keep the cost low for each trip.
- All refunds for trip cancellation will be made after the trip is completed.
- If you cancel there will be a fee charged for the bus unless your place can be filled.
- Gratuities now are included in the trip fee.

For more information call Louise Souk, 703-323-9144.

Calendar of Events

August 2003

21 Favorite Books Club

September 2003

5 Discussion Group
8 Forum, Fall Kickoff
8 Fall Class Registration Closes
10 Bridge Club
12 Board Meeting
15 Newsletter Deadline
17 Trip: Charlottesville, Ash Lawn, & Monticello
18 Favorite Books Club
22 Newsletter Mailing
24 Bridge Club

October 2003

6 Forum
7-9 Trip: New York City
10 Board Meeting
13 Newsletter Deadline
16 Favorite Books Club
19-21 LLI Mid-Atlantic Conference
20 Newsletter Mailing

November 2003

3 Forum
10 Newsletter Deadline
14 Board Meeting
17 Newsletter Mailing
20 Favorite Books Club

December 2003

— No Forum
11 Holiday Luncheon, Fort Belvoir
12 Board Meeting
12 "Winter Update" mailed in Dec., no January newsletter published

January 2004

5 Forum
9 Board Meeting
12 Newsletter Deadline
19 Newsletter Mailing

February 2004

3 Forum
9 Newsletter Deadline
13 Board Meeting
16 Newsletter Mailing

March 2004

1 Forum
12 Board Meeting
15 Newsletter Deadline
22 Newsletter Mailing

April 2004

5 Forum
9 Board Meeting
12 Newsletter Deadline
19 Newsletter Mailing

May 2004

3 Forum
14 Board Meeting
17 Newsletter Deadline
24 Newsletter Mailing

June 2004

7 Forum
11 Board Meeting
— No newsletter

July 2004

— No Forum; No Newsletter

August 2004

9 Newsletter Deadline
16 Newsletter Mailing
30 Forum, Fall Kickoff

September 2004

10 Board Meeting
13 Newsletter Deadline
20 Newsletter Mailing

October 2004

4 Forum
8 Board Meeting
11 Newsletter Deadline
18 Newsletter Mailing

President's Corner

I hope you have had a great summer. We look forward to seeing you at the Forum meetings and classes this fall. By the time you receive this newsletter you should have your new course catalogue in hand. Norma Hughes and her Program Committee have developed a wide variety of classes for your consideration. Please be sure to register without delay – the deadline is Monday, September 8.

Your newly constituted Board of Directors has been busy this summer reviewing the "State of LLI" and looking to the future. The many and varied LLI programs and operations were discussed in depth at an all-day meeting on July 15 (see article elsewhere in this issue). We had a productive session, focusing in particular on a major challenge – how can more LLI members become involved in LLI operations to ensure the Institute's continued vitality?

Although membership has increased over the last two or three years, fewer members seem to be willing to assume important assignments. There are many opportunities to contribute, as can be seen on the enclosed organization chart. It is noteworthy that so many of the names on the chart are those of members who have generously contributed their talents for several years. It is time for others to step forward.

The Board is exploring several initiatives to provide opportunities for involvement in this member-run organization. First, in October, the nominating committee, chaired by Martie Klee, will begin identifying future candidates for the Board. This committee typically starts its work only a few months prior to the annual election in June but, given the unprecedented turnover of Board members this past June (almost 50%) and the difficulty experienced in identifying replacement candidates, it is important that the committee have more time. Second, we want to get to know you better in order to determine what you like and /or don't like about LLI, while offering you an opportunity to assist in such a way that your talents can be shared with others. To help us in this effort, a member survey will be included with the October newsletter and we also are planning to hold some "get acquainted" sessions. More details will be forthcoming this fall.

LLI continues to flourish as we enter our eighth year; however, we must not become complacent. This is an active organization, offering its members a wide array of

LLI Board of Directors

President: Lorin Goodrich
Acting Vice President: Richard Risk
Secretary: Noreen Wayland
Treasurer: John Davis
Past President: Alan Mayer
President Emeritus: J. Knox Singleton

Members: Gladys Bucklew, Virginia Fernbach, Norma Hughes, Jane Jones, Martie Klee, Curt Komblau, John Manion, Donald Reynolds, Barbara Rolling, Liz Snively

Administrator: Laura Charron

Newsletter Staff

Newsletter Editor: Liz Snively (703) 683-6426 / jns-ginger@comcast.net
Graphic Design/Desktop Publisher: Alfred Brothers
Mailing Coordinators: Libby and Marvin Burge



Lifetime Learning Institute of Northern Virginia

c/o NVCC Continuing Education
8333 Little River Turnpike
Annandale, Virginia 22003
Phone (703) 503-0600 / FAX (703) 503-5350
E-Mail: llinova@juno.com
Website: <http://communities.msn.com/LLINOVA>

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Fourth Annual Northern Virginia Aging Network (NVAN) Legislative Forum

Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2003; 8:30-10:30 a.m.
(Country breakfast will be served.)

Location: Greenspring Village Conference Center,
7400 Spring Village Dr., Springfield

This is a bipartisan event and will have as guests many of our 70 Northern Virginia candidates for and incumbents of the Virginia General Assembly. The moderator will be Peggy Fox of TV Channel 9, and Commissioner DeBoer, Virginia Department for the Aging, and former state legislator, will be a featured speaker. The NVAN legislative platform for 2004 will be introduced/shared at this forum. The cost of the forum, which is co-sponsored with AARP and NARFE, is \$15:00 and seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Questions/Reservations:

Carolyn.Carter@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-324-5403.



LLI Library Closes

Interest in the LLI Library has not been sufficient to commit volunteer hours to its maintenance, so items in the library may be acquired at the September 8 Forum meeting by those members willing to make a suitable donation (\$1.00 or more) to LLI. Many thanks to all the members who helped out and participated. — *Betty Mahon*

Let's Meet and Greet!

Some new members have joined us over the summer, so please be sure to seek them out at our September Forum meeting, introduce yourself, and make them feel welcome.



Special Interest Groups

Bridge Group

The LLI Bridge Group meets twice monthly, i.e., usually the second and fourth Wednesdays, at the Mason District Government Center, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (bring a bag lunch). **We have the Small Conference Room at that location reserved for September 10 and 24, 2003.** Please call Bob or Gladys Bucklew, Chairpersons, at 703-631-7889 in advance of any date you wish to attend to confirm the meeting date for you and enable us to have sufficient cards and card tables for attendees. All are welcome. Note that if there are extra people, play is rotated (four hands per game) among all present. Also, most of our players are singles; you do not need a partner to attend. We hope you can join us!

Discussion Group - Everyone Welcome

Date: Friday, Sept. 5, 2003, 10:00-11:30 a.m., Seminar Room A, Ernst Cultural Center, NVCC.

Topic: What effect will the exporting of jobs and downsizing of the workforce have on the U.S. economy? While the economists are saying that we are coming out of the recession and that this is a jobless recovery, can this really be true? What do the unemployment figures really tell us? Please bring current clippings from the newspapers and magazines as well as your opinions

Information: Sue Swift (703) 698-8159

Favorite Books Club

LLI has a wonderful group of dedicated readers who chose to meet throughout this long rainy summer and, after reading "Seabiscuit," even went on an outing to see the movie and enjoy an early dinner together. Our next discussion will be:

Date: Thursday, August 21, 2003, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Mason District Center

Book selection: Libby Burge will review "Bel Canto" by Ann Patchett, and rumor has it that the review will include listening to some opera referred to in the book! All are welcome, even if you just want to come and see if you'd like to read the book!

Fall Reading selections:

Sept. "Undaunted Courage," by Stephen Ambrose

Oct. "The No.1 Ladies Detective Agency," by Alexander McCall Smith

Nov. "The Great Gatsby," by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Dec. – No book selection

Information: Contact Nan Liner at (703) 824-9762 or e-mail at NOL8@juno.com

German Conversation Club

We usually meet the second Monday of each month. If you're interested, please call Arline Sachs at (703) 971-2092.

LLI Singers

The LLI Singers soon will be in rehearsal again and male voices are badly needed. If you like to sing because it makes you feel good and can (sort of) carry a tune you're what we are looking for. If you sing in the shower, come and warble with us! Call Martie Klee (703) 644-4931 or e-mail marthaklee@earthlink.net. We'll make sure that our rehearsal schedule will accommodate those LLI members who have a morning or afternoon class.

Sports Memorabilia Group

The Sports Memorabilia Group, a special interest "Knot Hole Gang" (used to peer, free of charge, at sports events through the knot holes in pine fences), **is asked to meet for a few minutes after the September 8 Forum** with Moderator Don Reynolds, to consider the fall-winter curriculum. Welcome to those already enrolled and others who want to join...feminine members encouraged.

New Special Interest Group

Several LLI members (Norma Hughes, Jane Jones, Martie Klee, Knox and Marjorie Singleton) have reported that the Elderhostel Service Programs in which they participated were, without exception, unusually satisfying. Each one differed from other Elderhostel programs in that it was an altogether educational and meaningful experience: actually living for a short while within a culture and environment quite unlike our own while lending a helping hand to meet some special need within the community. Also, opportunities usually are provided on weekends for short trips to places of interest within the region.

The April 2003 Elderhostel Catalogue of International Programs, entitled *Discover the World*, includes several pages describing and detailing service programs in many parts of the world. Most programs do not require special skills, merely normal physical fitness and the genuine desire to be helpful. An unusual feature is that a significant portion of the cost, such as for travel and accommodations, may be declared as a tax-deductible contribution.

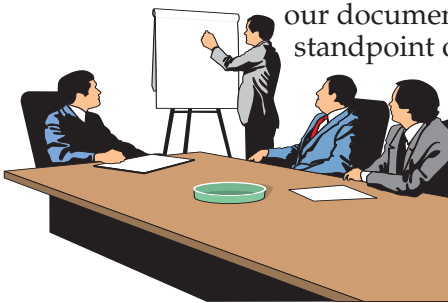
A new special interest group is being formed within LLI of those members who have participated in service programs, such as those described in the Elderhostel catalogue, or who are interested in doing so. Periodic meetings will be held to share information and encourage wider participation in these programs. The time and place for the first meeting has not yet been set so if you are interested in attending and learning more about these adventures please contact one of the members listed at the beginning of this article.

Sixth Annual Planning Retreat for LLI Board

LLI's Board of Directors, joined by Knox Singleton, President Emeritus; Laura Charron, Administrator; Warren Hynes, Assistant Treasurer; and Louise Souk, Trip Committee chair, met for an all-day planning session at Greenspring Village on July 15, 2003. The meeting was conducted by President Lorin Goodrich, who asked that the following questions be kept in mind during the day's discussions: (1) Are we adequately serving our membership? (2) Can we continue to sustain the current level of programs in light of the increasing difficulty in obtaining volunteers?

Fairfax Bar Review of LLI Documents

LLI qualified for pro bono assistance from the Fairfax Bar Association, so we requested a review of our documents from the standpoint of liability risks.



The Association's representative, Juliet Purll, has concluded that LLI is a "low risk" organization. She made some very

useful suggestions for clarifying the "Waiver of Responsibility" for people going on LLI-sponsored trips.

Strategic Plan

Board member Curt Kornblau is working with Memphis Norman, originator of LLI's Strategic Plan, on taking it beyond 2004.

Succession Planning/Nominating Committee

- There was a turnover of seven Board members this year. The Vice President position for 2003-2004 still is vacant, but Richard Risk has agreed to serve as Acting Vice President.
- Board member Martie Klee has been appointed chair of the Nominating Committee, and fellow directors Don Reynolds and Liz Snively have volunteered to serve as members. Martie will identify two LLI members, not on the Board, and present the proposed committee for Board approval at its September 12 meeting.

Volunteers

Martie Klee initiated a discussion on how LLI might enlist volunteers to assist in the many areas involved in running a successful volunteer organization. The

current member survey form will be revised to request more detailed information about members' interests and life experiences; the updated form will be distributed with the October newsletter. The survey also will give members the opportunity to express their opinions about LLI's programs and operations. The Board also suggested various methods for reaching out to new members and making them feel welcome.

Membership

Laura Charron reported that we currently have 338 members; membership turnover has been low. About one-quarter of the members are men.

Finances/Budget

- Richard Risk presented the Actual Income and Expenses for FY 2003, along with the Proposed Budget for FY 2004. The estimated carryover from budgeted and unbudgeted activities for FY 2003 was \$3220.00.
- Warren Hynes presented an overview of the annual financial report for FY ended June 30, 2003. The Budget and Finance Committee will make a recommendation to the Board regarding an appropriate reserve level (a "rainy day fund").

LLI's financial condition is sound, thanks to the membership level and the time and effort contributed by our many volunteers.

Academic Programs

Norma Hughes provided a list of courses being offered for the fall program: 29 classes, 2 tours, and 7 special interest groups. It was the consensus of the Board that between 30 and 35 classes should be offered during each of the fall and winter/spring sessions. The Program Committee will be developing the curriculum for the winter/spring 2004 session starting in early October. Several courses have been identified already.

Trips and Tours

- Louise Souk reported on planned trips and presented the trip cancellation policy to the Board. If a person registers for a trip and is obliged to cancel, their deposit will be retained until after the trip has been completed. If their space has been filled, they will receive a full refund; otherwise, they will receive a partial refund after deductions have been taken for their

share of the cost of the bus and any other non-refundable items (e.g., admission tickets).

- In December there will be a tour of the Woodrow Wilson House in Washington, followed by a drive around the Ellipse to see the National Christmas Tree and Pageant of Peace, and wrapping up with lunch and shopping at Georgetown Park.
- The Board approved the following motions:
 - ❖ for a three-day, two-night trip to Pittsburgh in June 2004.
 - ❖ to donate \$350.00 to the Little River United Church of Christ for so generously allowing LLI members to use their parking lot when going on day or overnight trips.

Special Events

Virginia Fernbach reported on the success of LLI's annual picnic and suggested we continue to hold it in June. This year's Holiday Luncheon will be held on December 11 at the Fort Belvoir Officers' Club

LLI Mid-Atlantic Conference

The Board approved the allocation of \$1500.00 to cover the attendance of four representatives to the LLI Mid-Atlantic Conference being held October 19-21, 2003 in Virginia Beach. The Conference is being hosted by the Lifelong Learning Society



of Christopher Newport University and the Institute for Learning in Retirement of Old Dominion

University. Administrator Laura Charron, Board members Virginia Fernbach and Martie Klee (our Elderhostel Institute Network representative), and Trip Committee chair, Louise Sousk, will attend (Virginia and Louise are scheduled to be panelists). They will report back to the Board and membership any key points from the programs attended that might be helpful to us.

Monthly Forum Meetings

Richard Risk reported that attendance at the Forum meetings averaged 139 members and visitors during the period September 2002-June 2003. Bob Beyer has made arrangements for guest speakers through June 2004.

Tenth Anniversary Planning

Don Reynolds is working on a plan for LLI to celebrate its accomplishments during the tenth year of our existence (2005-2006). LLI was incorporated by the Commonwealth of Virginia on March 13, 1996.

Summary

LLI continues to be a healthy organization. It is sound financially, membership turnover is low, and a wide variety of programs and activities continue to be offered. However, as LLI's membership has grown, the Board believes it should direct more attention to becoming acquainted with the members and learning more about what they like and/or don't like about LLI. The Board is hopeful that more members will volunteer their time and talents so that at least the current level of operations may be sustained.

Note: Members may arrange to read a copy of the Retreat minutes by calling the LLI office (703-503-0600).



Membership Update

New Members: Welcome!

We hope you will participate in our classes and volunteer your talents and time to our various committees.

Mrs. Farideh Hooshiar, 5604 Mary Fairfax Ct., Fairfax Station, VA 22039; tel.: (703) 323-5204; fax: (703) 323-8153

Mrs. Carol Flood, 8940 Mountain Ash Drive, Springfield, VA 22153; tel.: (703) 440-6835

Dr. David Garrett, Apt. 1105, 5904 Mount Eagle Drive, Alexandria, VA 22303; tel.: (h) (703) 960-2645; (w) (703) 899-5750; fax: (703) 960-2645; e-mail: Dagarr@juno.com



Membership Renewal

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter for your membership renewal date; a great many expire at the end of August. You must renew in order to register for Fall 2003 courses, which start in September, and to participate in LLI's many other activities. Please complete the form in the Fall 2003 course catalogue and mail it to the LLI office with a check in the amount of \$100 for each person wishing to continue with LLI.

