

### Finding Media Balance in the Age of Spin

With 24/7 news coverage, 700 channels to choose from, and worldwide access to information at our fingertips, how do we begin to make sense of it all? Dr. Janette Muir, George Mason University, will lead a discussion focusing on ways media outlets report the news and the impact this reporting has on consumers of the information. We will view examples and engage in a lively discussion about the "spin" that is put on the news we receive and its impact on how we look at the world. We will also discuss some strategies for how to be better media consumers.

The Forum room is located on the second level of the Ernst Cultural Center, NVCC-Annandale. Coffee, tea, and refreshments will be served at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m.

Parking is available in the garage at an hourly rate of \$1.00. Please enter at the lower level on Center Drive.

### LLI Nominating Committee Seeks Candidates

Have you ever wondered what the LLI Board of Directors actually does? Now is your chance to find out "from the inside." The Nominating Committee is starting to identify candidates for election to the Board at the annual meeting on June 5, 2007. The 15-member Board has a variety of responsibilities that must be carried out by LLI members who enjoy sharing their time and talents. This is a great opportunity to see how LLI operates and to influence its direction.

Please contact one of the Committee's members if you are interested. They are Lorin Goodrich (chairman) at 703-425-9574 or [lorin.goodrich@verizon.net](mailto:lorin.goodrich@verizon.net), Libby Burge at 703-451-2534 or [lburge@cox.net](mailto:lburge@cox.net), Deanna deMember at 703-866-0907 or [ddemember@aol.com](mailto:ddemember@aol.com), Colletta Hammond at 703-866-6159 or [mchammondh@aol.com](mailto:mchammondh@aol.com), or Richard Risk at 703-578-9898.

### Lunch Bunch

On February 6, the Lunch Bunch will eat at the **Family Restaurant** in the Pan Am Shopping Center located at 3051 Nutley St., Fairfax, VA. Phone: 703-560-9322. The restaurant features a wide variety of tasty, low-cost daily specials, sandwiches, Greek and Italian foods. **Directions from NVCC Annandale Campus:** Left onto Little River Turnpike toward Fairfax; right onto Prosperity Avenue (at the Exxon Station). At Arlington Blvd. turn left. At Nutley Street turn right and continue to the Pan Am Shopping Center on the right. Take the second entrance into the shopping center headed toward the CVS store. The Family Restaurant is next to it.

**Note:** The LLI Community Outreach Program will again collect food donations on February 6. For details, see the article on LLI Community Outreach.



### Third Annual Valentine Open House \*

sponsored by the *LLI Poetry Group*

*Feb. 14 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. \*\**

*St. Matthew's United  
Methodist Church  
Rooms 303 and 304*

*Join members of the poetry group as we read or recite favorite poems about love.*

*Bring your own favorites to read or just come and enjoy the fun sharing love poems, light refreshments, and music*

\* Will not be held if Fairfax County Schools close for bad weather

\*\* NOTE TIME correction from catalog listing

# Calendar of Events

# President's Corner

## February

- 6 Forum
- 9 Board meeting
- 9 Mar. newsletter deadline
- 20 Newsletter mailing

## March

- 7 Forum (Wednesday)
- 9 Board meeting
- 9 Apr. newsletter deadline
- 19 Newsletter mailing
- 28 **Trip:** Fredericksburg & Riverside Theater's "Bye, Bye, Birdie"

## April

- 3 Forum
- 6 May newsletter deadline
- 13 Board meeting
- 16 Newsletter mailing
- 20 **Trip:** Supreme Court & Sewell-Belmont House

## May

- 1 Forum
- 11 Board meeting
- 11 June newsletter deadline
- 21 Newsletter mailing
- 22-25 **Trip:** Long Island Tour (Hamptons, Montauk Point, Sagamore Hill, Winery)

## June

- 5 Forum
- 8 Board meeting
- 13 **Trip:** Richmond (Lewis Ginter Gardens, Wilton Plantation Home and Maggie Walker Home)

## July

- No Forum, no newsletter
- Board planning retreat

## August

- 3 Sept. newsletter deadline
- 13 Newsletter mailing
- 28 Forum

## September

- 7 Oct. newsletter deadline
- 14 Board meeting
- 17 Newsletter mailing
- 25-28 **Trip:** Plantations, Jamestown's 400 year anniversary, Wmsburg., and Yorktown

## October

- 9 Forum (second Tuesday)
- 12 Nov. newsletter deadline
- 22 Newsletter mailing
- 13-20 **Trip:** Cruise to Bermuda

## November

- 6 Forum
- 9 Board meeting
- 9 Dec. newsletter deadline
- 19 Dec. newsletter mailing

## December

- No Forum
- 7 Winter Update deadline
- 14 Board meeting
- 17 Winter Update mailing

**Note:** Forum meetings are scheduled on the first Tuesday of the month except as indicated above. Board meetings are held on the second Friday of each month except July.

A New Year's greetings to all. After the wonderful holiday season, our Winter/Spring Catalogue lists an abundance of opportunities for learning through classes, trips, and special interest groups. In addition Lorin Goodrich has once again arranged a variety of interesting speakers for the upcoming monthly Forums. We continue to receive grateful acknowledgements from the organizations we support with our Forum food collections. Thank you all for your ongoing contributions.

A final thank you to all those who made the Holiday Party a great success. We tried to identify each hardworking volunteer in the Winter Update newsletter last month. Thank you all again. As the last in the trilogy of 10th Anniversary Celebrations, the Holiday Party was wonderful. The singers from Arlington's Yorktown High School were a special treat. The weather, food, music and camaraderie combined for a wonderful day.

LLI owes Don Reynolds special recognition for his role in directing the planning and execution of all the 10th Anniversary events. See the special article recognizing Don below.

See you at the February 6 Forum.

Norma Hughes

# Thank You, Don!

Congratulations to Don Reynolds on leading LLI's 10th Anniversary celebrations into memorable and successful events. Around five years ago, Don took on the task of chair of LLI's tenth anniversary events and joined his talents with the late Memphis Norman as they researched, composed, and implemented a Power Point presentation about the founding and history of LLI. While all the events had their own chairs and committees, it was Don who organized countless meetings to plan and organize all three: the 10th Anniversary Party in May, the picnic in September, and the Holiday Party in December. In addition, Don provided monthly quizzes for the newsletter and created humorous Burma Shave signs with slogans specific to LLI's people and history. From oversight duties to minor details, Don Reynolds gave LLI a 10th Anniversary Celebration to be remembered.

1996 LLI 2006



Happy 10th Birthday!

## LLI Board of Directors

**President:** Norma Hughes  
**Vice President:** Dick DiBuono  
**Secretary:** Gina Trapp  
**Treasurer:** Phil Runge  
**Assistant Treasurer:** Warren Hynes  
**Past President:** Lorin Goodrich  
**President Emeritus:** J. Knox Singleton

**Members:** Libby Burge 07\*, Deanna deMember 09, Dick DiBuono 07, Burt Greenstein 07, Paul Hople 08, Norma Hughes 09, Doug Johnson 09, Curt Kornblau 08, Betty Mahon 07, Liddell McLeod 07, Don Reynolds 09, Phil Runge 08, Gina Trapp 09, Mary Underwood 08

\* year term ends

**Administrator:** Laura Charron

## Newsletter Staff

**Newsletter Editor:** Liddell McLeod (703) 698-8366 / liddell\_mcl@cox.net  
**Graphic Design/Desktop Publisher:** Alfred Brothers  
**Mailing Coordinator:** Colletta Hammond

# Volunteers Who Manage Our Finances

Like all other organizations, LLI needs money, depends on its volunteers to keep the cost of operations down, and needs people to administer the cash flow. LLI is very fortunate to have dedicated, talented people to administer its operating funds. The Budget and Finance Committee is headed by LLI Vice President Dick DiBuono and includes Assistant Treasurer Warren Hynes, Board member Curt Kornblau and Treasurer Phil Runge. Throughout the year this committee acts as the watchdog of LLI spending, reporting periodically to the Board the status of the budget. Each spring it reviews each item of the current budget against actual expenditure. The committee prepares the next year's budget in strict accordance with the expected income and presents the draft budget to the Board for approval. After it is published in the newsletter, it is presented to the membership for approval in June. This committee and those members who have served on it in the 10 years of LLI's existence have managed until this year to forgo any dues increases. They and the Board are to be commended for their stewardship.

The hardest working member—the one putting in the most hours, the one juggling the most details—is without a doubt the Treasurer Phil Runge. In a year's time he processes more than one thousand incoming checks: payments for dues, trips, scholarship donations, special events, and class fees. In addition he pays LLI's bills for refreshments, classroom space, trip vendors, printing, mailing, and office supplies. Each month he prepares a three-page computer-generated financial report for the Board. Also, he pays LLI's insurance, corporation fees, and contracted fee for the service of our administrator, negotiates contracts with those doing business with LLI, and submits the yearly IRS tax return. In addition, this past year, he was able to work out a reduction of telephone costs and revamp the petty cash process. He frequently confers with Assistant Treasurer Warren Hynes, a former accountant who has put in many years of financial service to LLI. Warren also acts as Treasurer in Phil's absence.

LLI's monetary practices are reviewed each year by a committee of members, who audit the LLI books. For FYI 2006 Norma Fisher acted as chair, with former Treasurer John Manion and Board member Doug Johnson rounding out the committee. This year to augment the work of the audit committee, LLI Board members engaged an accountant to determine whether the organization was operating in accordance with IRS rules. Both the outside accountant and the internal audit committee determined that LLI handles its finances properly

Once again it is important to remember how vital volunteers are to LLI. None are more important than those who work to keep this organization financially stable, and they deserve special thanks.

*Libby Burge*

## LLI Community Outreach

Following the February 6 Forum, Sally Reynolds will take our food donations to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. The Food Pantry serves the working poor and homeless in Fairfax City and the surrounding area. It serves many families each month and even more over Thanksgiving and Christmas. St. Vincent's is also an emergency helpline to assist the needy. Its pantry is in need of items such as pancake syrup and pancake mixes; dried and canned beans; jelly; canned food, such as spaghetti and other tomato-based meals; tea bags; coffee; hot chocolate; hot cereals; and toiletries.

When selecting items to donate, please remember to check the expiration date on each item. Each individual item we donate may not be immediately distributed. This means some items may stay on a shelf for a few days or weeks. While some of us may use a product with a date that is quickly approaching expiration on our own shelves, the organizations that provide food to others may not be able to distribute those items before the date has passed.

Thanks go out to Bonnie Hopler who delivered our donations in January to FACETS. And, many thanks to each of you for remembering to bring a food donation to the Forum.

---

## Weather Cancellation Policy

**A**ll LLI classes and other activities (except bus tours), *regardless of location*, are canceled whenever Fairfax County Public Schools close because of adverse weather conditions.

Always check radio, television, or the Internet for Fairfax County Public School announcements when bad weather is imminent. For bus tours, please contact the tour leader as listed in the program booklet. LLI morning classes are canceled if the County announces a 2-hour delay in school openings. LLI afternoon classes are canceled if the County announces early dismissal. You will be notified about a schedule for "makeup" classes. Remember: LLI follows Fairfax County school cancellation policy — **NOT** the NVCC.



---

# Membership Update

## New Members

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

**Elizabeth T. Jensen**, 307 Yoakum Pkwy. #1726, 703-370-6665; [Bettejen8@aol.com](mailto:Bettejen8@aol.com)

**Merry Macke**, 7522 Havelock Street, Springfield, VA 22150; [merry.macke@cox.net](mailto:merry.macke@cox.net)

**Jeanne Midgett**, 3413 Beverly Drive, Annandale, VA 22003; 703-560-7464; [JCMidgett@verizon.net](mailto:JCMidgett@verizon.net)

**Marion Morrison**, 3620 Camelot Drive, Annandale, VA 22003; 703-560-8857

**John Simmons**, 8305 Miss Anne Lane, Annandale, VA 22003; 703-978-3997; [johnmsimmons06@cox.net](mailto:johnmsimmons06@cox.net)

**Ruth Ann C. Simmons**, 8305 Miss Anne Lane, Annandale, VA 22003; 703-978-3997; [ruthcsimmons@cox.net](mailto:ruthcsimmons@cox.net)

**Catherine Schmidt**, 307 Yoakum Pkwy., Apt. 1422, Alexandria, VA 22304; 703-370-4477

**Mike Stephens**, 9025 Fort Craig Drive, Burke, VA 22015; 703-323-5979; [MSSTEPTFLYS@aol.com](mailto:MSSTEPTFLYS@aol.com)

**Sandra Stephens**, 9025 Fort Craig Drive, Burke, VA 22015; 703-323-5979; [sstep23@aol.com](mailto:sstep23@aol.com)

**Florene Wrobel**, 205 Yoakum Pkwy. Apt. 1808, Alexandria, VA 22304; 703-751-1230; [FWrobel04@yahoo.com](mailto:FWrobel04@yahoo.com)

## Changes/Corrections to Directory

**Sarah Bell**: [sarahbell01@cox.net](mailto:sarahbell01@cox.net)

**Deanna deMember**, 7408 Spring Village Drive, JC422, Springfield, VA. 22152

**Susan Johnson Harding**: 703-619-0479

Mrs. Pat Hoppe, 4220 Corcoran Street, Alexandria, VA 22309; 703-780-5614; [pathoppe@aol.com](mailto:pathoppe@aol.com)

**Dwight Hulse & Mary O'Day**: 9405 Blackwell Rd. #103, Rockville, MD 20850; 703-216-4546

**Mary I. Johnson**, 10241 Aspen Willow Drive, Fairfax, VA 22032, [maaij@aol.com](mailto:maaij@aol.com)

**Ann Lyons**: [sandalyons@verizon.net](mailto:sandalyons@verizon.net)

**Saranel S. Osborne**: 703-573-4619

**Joan Pirrello**: [joan\\_pirrello@yahoo.com](mailto:joan_pirrello@yahoo.com)

**Eleanor B. Platt**: [eleanorplatt@comcast.net](mailto:eleanorplatt@comcast.net)

**Jan Vanderstaay**: [Janvan3@verizon.net](mailto:Janvan3@verizon.net)

---

## Study/Travel

Our study program for Ireland is developing nicely. Our own Burt Greenstein will lecture us on Irish history, and we plan to visit the Irish Embassy in Washington, D.C. There will be DVDs, pictures and videos of Ireland at another study session, and possibly a discussion of Irish culture, arts, and politics. One of our discussions will focus on future trips. The final session will be devoted to the details of our actual trip, which begins June 16. We still have some space available. Contact the LLI office about signing up.

We will be planning upcoming trips to Southern Italy and Sicily in the spring of 2008 and a cruise and land trip to Alaska in July of 2008. I am looking for subcommittees of 3-5 people who have a strong interest in and desire to learn about these places, to determine what we should see, and to make recommendations on which tours best meet our needs. If you are interested in this stimulating and exciting opportunity, please contact Doug Johnson at 703-549-0474 or [leonadougjohnson@yahoo.com](mailto:leonadougjohnson@yahoo.com).

There will be a meeting in May, open to everyone who likes to travel, to talk about and plan our trip to Alaska and where to go in the fall of 2008 and early 2009. We also plan to run a study session that will correspond to each trip we plan to take.

---

## Curriculum Notes

Session 8 of **Course 7W32A**, *The 20th Century World: A Geo-Political Kaleidoscope* has been rescheduled from March 15 to March 29.

---

## Membership Renewal Reminder

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter for your membership renewal date. You must renew in order to register for courses and to participate in LLI's many other activities. Please complete the form in the Winter/Spring 2007 course catalogue and mail it to the LLI office with a check in the amount of \$110 for each person wishing to continue with LLI.



# Special Interest Groups

## Arts and Smarts

On January 26, we will begin our new year with a docent-led tour of National Museum of African Art. This will be followed by viewing the "Clash of the Empires" in the International Gallery at Ripley Center. This interesting exhibition is about the British, French and Indian War, and the struggle for North America prior to the Revolutionary War.

February 16 we have scheduled a tour of the Luce Foundation Center for American Art. It is the first visible art storage and study center in Washington, displaying more than 3,300 objects from the Museum's permanent collection. Some of the items featured are craft and folk art, sculptures, paintings miniatures, and many other items.

In March a tour of the Renwick Gallery is planned, along with a walk by our beautiful White House. At the Renwick there is quite a notable collection of the paintings of George Catlin. There is also an interesting collection of folk art.

In April we are planning a visit to the Lunder Conservation Center to get a behind-the-scenes look at the effort and talent that is required for restoration and preservation of the art works.

For additional information on any of these events, please call Donna Trogler, 703-751-8932 or [DTrogler@aol.com](mailto:DTrogler@aol.com).

## Bridge Group

In February 2007, the LLI Bridge Group will meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays, February 14 and 28, at the Mason District Government Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (bring a bag lunch). Please call Bob or Gladys Bucklew, Chairpersons, at 703-631-7889 any date you wish to attend to afford us the opportunity to obtain sufficient 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!

## Current Events Group

**Date:** Friday, 2 February 2007

**Place:** Mason District Governmental Center, Small Conference Room

**Time:** 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

**Topic:** The Solution to Iraq Continued

What is the President's plan? What is the early Congressional reaction to it? Can we get neighboring countries involved? Will that help? What do we think?

Our goal is a diverse discussion with equal participation by all who wish to speak. After about an hour on the topic, we choose a topic for the next meeting. We then have an open forum on current events of interest to

anyone in the group. Meetings are open to anyone who wants to participate or learn more about current events.

For more information email Shirley Lotz at [svlotz@cox.net](mailto:svlotz@cox.net) or call her at (703) 978-2977.

## Favorite Books Club

On February 15 the book club members will discuss one of the all-time classics — *Jane Eyre*. Published in 1847, it is Charlotte Bronte's first published novel and her most noted work. The story follows an orphan girl's progress from custody of cruel relatives to an oppressive boarding school, culminating in a troubled career as a governess. Jane's first assignment at Thornfield, where the proud and cynical master harbors a scandalous secret, draws readers ever deeper into a compelling exploration of the mysteries of the human heart.

Please come and participate in the discussion at Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Questions may be directed to Arlene Gribben at 703-569-0357 or at [artenegribb@aol.com](mailto:artenegribb@aol.com).

## Gourmands

Becky Perry has arranged for the Gourmands to lunch on February 27 at the Myanmar, a Burmese restaurant located at 7801C Lee Highway (Merri-Falls Plaza) in Falls Church. Please contact Becky Perry if you wish to attend.

## Walkabouts

Mark your calendars for two Thursday walks in February. On February 8 and February 22 we will begin the walks at noon from the Eakin Park parking lot on Prosperity Avenue. Contact Liddell McLeod at 703-698-8366 or [liddell\\_mcl@cox.net](mailto:liddell_mcl@cox.net) for more information.

---

## Tickets Still Available!!!

Don't miss out on LLI's celebration of the Washington Shakespeare Festival. Order your tickets now for the following Sunday matinee performances:

**Feb. 11** *King Lear*

**Mar. 4** *Richard III*

**Jun. 10** *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*

Fliers were sent in previous newsletters.

Please contact Helen Clark if you have any questions about the tickets (703) 573-1671 or Virginia Fernbach (703) 751-8369 about the LLI Shakespeare Festival.



**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](mailto:llinova@juno.com)  
Website: <http://lli.nova.org>

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 2192  
Merrifield, VA

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

**Time Sensitive Material  
Please Deliver by  
January 26, 2007**

## What Are You Doing with Your Valuables?

At this point in our lives all of us have valuable "stuff," and we may have to downsize. Now is your chance to determine how much your valuables are worth in the marketplace, and now you can preserve your keepsakes for posterity. Space is still available in course 7W02A, "History in Your Hands," starting Feb. 5. It is not too late to register.

## Registration Confirmations Mailed

Confirmation for class registrations have been mailed. The forms indicate "W" for wait list or "A" for acceptance. If you selected a class and the action column is blank, be assured that you are in the class. However, *if you have been wait-listed, please do not attend unless you receive a call from the class leader or coordinator*

**Deadline for March newsletter input: Feb. 9.**

