# News & Views

Volume 12 – Number 5

**June 2008** 

### June Forum

Monday, June 2, 2008, 10:00 a.m. Social Hour Starts at 9:30 a.m.

How Can We Best Resolve Conflicts Around the World? Can Ancient Wisdom Lead to New Approaches?

Dr. Richard Rubenstein, Professor of Conflict Resolution and Public Affairs at George Mason University, will speak about the most effective ways for reducing world tensions and improving prospects for peace. Dr. Rubenstein, a former Oxford University Rhodes Scholar and author of several books, will explore how the teachings of the ancient prophets can be applied to modern problem solving. The lessons of these ancient men about power and social justice are as applicable today as they were centuries ago. Dr. Rubenstein's insights into the problems we face today will widen our perspectives and stimulate fresh thinking.

**Please Note**: *Parking is in the pay parking garage. Parking in the B and C lots is by permit only.* 

**Reminder:** Be sure to participate in LLI's Annual Business Meeting, immediately following the speaker's presentation. Elections will be held for officers and members of the Board of Directors, and other business will be conducted in relation to our new operating year. In addition, LLI's Scholarship and Merit Award winners for 2008 will be introduced.

### **Lunch Bunch**

John Bogart bogartje@cox.net

The Lunch Bunch will meet at the **China Star Restaurant** in Fair City Mall after the June Forum meeting. It is recommended by a number of LLI members.

**Directions:** Leaving NOVA, turn left onto Route 236 (toward Fairfax City). Proceed approximately one mile, pass the Pickett Rd. intersection, and turn right into Fair City Mall, near Kinko's. The restaurant is below Kinko's, on the right.

# Save the Date for the Annual Picnic

Our annual picnic will be at the Pavilion at Fort Hunt Park in Alexandria on Wednesday,

September 17. So mark your calendar now to enjoy an afternoon of fun, food and friends.

More details, including a registration form and directions, will be in a future newsletter.

### Something Spooky About Our LLI Picnic Grounds

Our annual picnic this September will mark the third consecutive year at Fort Hunt on the Potomac. Right after our 2007 event, there was a public ceremony revealing a portion of previously undisclosed data concerning clandestine activity that probably played a major part in the eventual outcome of World War II.

Reading about this disclosure of top secret intelligence taking place at Ft. Hunt some 65 years ago, I was reminded that the 2007 picnic chaired by Bonnie Hopler was cloaked in a spy-related theme with dark glasses, secret codes, and a "mum's the word" password for entry. I immediately questioned Bonnie, no "waterboarding in LLI," if the 2007 picnic "spy theme" was related to the surprise disclosure that was made with a new flagpole and commemorative plaque installed a few days after we departed.

She confessed she didn't have the foggiest inkling of the top secret wartime intelligence camp that was unknown to all but a few during the dark days of the forties.

To be continued in the August/September issue of News & Views

### Calendar of Events

### June 2008

- 2 Forum (Mon.)
- 5 Trip: Frederick County, MD; Monocacy Aqueduct, covered bridges & Catoctin Iron Furnace
- 13 Board meeting

### **July 2008**

- No Forum, no newsletter
- 10 Board Planning Retreat
- 15 Trip: Newseum & Lincoln Cottage

### August 2008

- 7 Sept. newsletter deadline
- 14 Trip: St. Michaels, MD
- 18 Newsletter mailing

### September 2008

- 2 Forum (Tues.)
- 12 Board meeting
- 12 Oct. newsletter deadline

- 17 Annual Picnic
- 22 Newsletter mailing
- 23-26 Trip: New York City

### October 2008

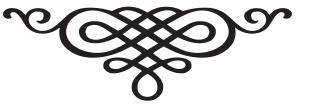
- **7** Forum (Tues.)
- **10** Board meeting
- 10 Nov. newsletter deadline
- **18-25** Cruise: New England and Canada
  - 20 Newsletter mailing
  - 28 Baltimore Basilica, Russian Orthodox Church and Museum of American Visionary Art

#### November 2008

- **5** Forum (Wed.)
- 14 Board meeting
- 14 Dec. newsletter deadline
- 24 Newsletter mailing

### December 2008

- 4 Holiday Party
- 12 Trip: Candlelight dinner at Gunston Hall



#### **LLI Board of Directors**

President: Dick DiBuono
Vice President: Bob Huley
Secretary: Gina Trapp
Treasurer: Phil Runge

Assistant Treasurer: Warren Hynes
Past President: Norma Hughes

Members: Libby Burge 08\*, Deanna deMember 09, Dick DiBuono 10, Paul Hopler 08, Norma Hughes 09, Bob Huley 10, Doug Johnson 09, Liddell McLeod 10, Marianne Moerman 10, Barry Newman 10, Don Reynolds 09, Phil Runge 08, Gina Trapp 09, Mary Underwood 08

\* year term ends

Administrator: Laura Charron

#### **Newsletter Staff**

Newsletter Co-Editors: Norma Hughes 703-960-6279 nah.home@verizon.net and Lynda Brittain 703-425-8240 brittains@cox.net Graphic Design/Desktop Publisher: Alfred Brothers Mailing Coordinators: Colletta Hammond and Kathy Hall

© Lifetime Learning Institute 2008



### **Members**

Martha Siemering 703-569-2450 martsiem@cox.net

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

Ruth Ann and John Simmons, 8305 Miss Anne Lane, Annandale VA 22003, (703) 978-3997, iohnmsimmons06@cox.net

### **Updates**

**Dominque C. Bizier**, 10029 Wheatfield Ct., Fairfax VA 22032, (703) 425-4697, bizret@cox.net

Dianne C. Boyle, jaboyle2verizon.net

John A. Wyatt, jackandpeggy2002@yahoo.com

Nell and Yung-Kuans Wu, yungkwu@verizon.net

#### **Corrections**

Ann Lyons, sandalyons@verizon.net

Marion Moser, mrn.moser@gmail.com



### **Lanyard Notice**

During the past year, LLI has been providing a dark green lanyard to its members at no cost. These lanyards have been available for members to obtain at the monthly Forums and at some classes. Beginning in June 2008 the lanyards will be available by request ((703) 503-0699 or llinova@juno.com) to those members who have not received one as yet. If a lanyard is lost, a replacement will be available for a \$1.00 charge. Please contact the Administrator, Laura Charron if you have any questions.

You are asked to complete the emergency contact information on the back of your name tag in the lanyard to wear it all LLI events (classes, trips, monthly Forum meetings).

### **President's Corner**

Those who attended the May 6 Forum meeting heard the U.S. Postal Service representatives tell us that the one penny raise in the price of a first class stamp to 42 cents beginning on May 12 is not to be considered a rate increase, rather it is to be viewed as a "rate adjustment" because along with this hike comes a reduction in the cost of mailing certain parcels. This may sound like government-speak but we did learn that there is much to be gained by exploring the options the USPS provides us customers on its website www.usps.gov — from buying stamps to mailing packages right from our homes without having to burn expensive gasoline to drive to the Post Office. Our Annual Meeting will be held following the guest speaker's presentation at the June 2 Forum meeting. We will be electing officers and members of the Board of Directors for the next operating year (July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009) and learning about the Board-approved fiscal year 2009 budget, a copy of which appears elsewhere in this newsletter. I encourage all of you to attend and participate in this important meeting. Although a summary of LLI's activities and accomplishments during FY 2008, which ends June 30, will be presented in the August/September newsletter (no newsletter in July) I want to provide you with a few facts here:

- this is LLI's 12th operating year, in which, sadly, we lost our founder Knox Singleton;
- > we currently have 383 members;
- > we've managed to hold our annual dues at the \$110 level for a second successive year;
- > we conducted a successful education program extending over three terms with 27 courses of instruction in the summer curriculum, 38 courses in the fall and 43 courses in the current winter-spring curriculum;
- > we have held 8 very interesting Forum meetings (the 9th will be on June 2nd) with attendance ranging from 140 to 190 members;
- > we conducted 8 day trips and 2 overnights;
- > we enjoyed a fall picnic and a holiday luncheon;
- > we've sponsored 7 very active special interest groups; and
- > we managed to secure use of the Ernst Cultural Center Forum and Seminar rooms at least through the end of 2009.

These and more we've achieved through the vast volunteer efforts of our members with the administrative support of just one paid part-time person. As I conclude my year as your president I am proud of our Institute and its accomplishments. Continuation of this success depends on all of our members volunteering for at least one activity or committee in the coming year.

Dick DiBuono

# June Community Outreach

Betty Lee Thatcher 703-354-8154 Carol Weber, caroljeanweber@hotmail.com

LLI has received letters of thanks from Food for Others and the Arlington Food Assistance Center. Both organizations report an increase in the need for food this year and are grateful for our donations.

In June the designated recipient of LLI's food collection is ALIVE (Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically). This non-profit was founded in 1967 and currently is supported by 40 religious congregations in Alexandria. Annually, over 12,000 needy Alexandrians are served. ALIVE runs a shelter for women and children, operates a low-cost center for early childhood education and childcare, provides financial help for rent, utilities, and medical care, and provides donated furniture and house wares in addition to its emergency food program. Over 700 volunteers support the organization. In part, their mission is "to put their faith and love into action by committing themselves to alleviate the suffering caused by poverty and to bring about dramatic improvement in the lives of those in need."

# ... any non-perishable item would be appreciated

You might have seen a Washington Post article in April that reported that the ALIVE warehouse was robbed of over \$2000 worth of canned food. We hope our donations will help replenish their supplies. Current needs are peanut butter and jelly, canned meats, rice, spaghetti and tomato sauces, spaghetti noodles, cereal, crackers, and cookies. However, any non-perishable item would be appreciated.

Thanks as always for your generous donations. We routinely collect three overflowing grocery carts of food each month. This will be the last food collection until the September Forum. Carol Weber will deliver the food this month.

### **LLI Scholarship Winners for 2008**

On April 25, the LLI scholarship committee had the pleasure of interviewing 13 of the students who applied for our scholarships. As always, we were impressed with their academic achievements (very high GPA's), clearcut goals, leadership skills, and gratitude and appreciation to LLI for giving them the opportunities for furthering their studies. LISA **BORGES** was the winner of the **LLI Knox Singleton** Leadership Scholarship (\$2,000). Lisa has been an active officer in the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society and has been recommended as president for next year. She is a military video photographer active in Navy reserves, and applied these skills to helping PTK. In addition, she was active in the Relay for Life (in aid of cancer) and Make a Splash (a swim program to help disabled children). She plans to complete her training at NVCC in Marketing, Promotions and Public Relations, and to get a BA in Television, Radio and Film. The winner of the \$1,000 leadership scholarship was CATHERINE MIRCH, another "non-traditional" older student. She has shown leadership in many volunteer activities, the most notable of which was her organization of a dental hygiene project at a local Falls Church elementary school, where she arranged for donation of dental hygiene products and training of schoolchildren in their uses. She plans to work in the global business world, either as an entrepreneur in the USA, or to go abroad to help developing countries.

Winners of the \$2,000 academic scholarships were ALYSSA PAREDES and AGNIESZKA (AGGA) SPRYSZYNSKA. Alyssa has lofty career goals, to get a degree in cognitive science from Johns Hopkins or the University of Pennsylvania so that she can practice as a clinical neuropsychologist. This is based on her experience as an extern in a neurodegenerative disease center, and her current research on brain function both at NVCC and George Washington University. Agga came to the US three years ago from Poland, knowing virtually no English. She worked as a nanny and came to NVCC, where she was the top student in the English composition class! She wants to major in economics, so that she can understand the capitalist system better, return to Poland and help her country as it struggles to overcome its communist past.

The winners of the \$1,000 academic scholarships are no less impressive. NESSIE VANTA has been active in volunteer efforts since high school, and is currently an officer of PTK. She has organized swim programs for disabled children, and helped with tree planting and highway cleanups in Fairfax County. She plans to get a Nursing degree and later an MS in nursing to enable her to teach in college. DANIELA VERANO is also an active member of PTK and of the Hispanic Student Union. She is currently studying for her Business Associate degree at NVCC.

In addition, four **Merit Awards** were made to **JAE LIN YI, PATRICIA EVANS, FRIBA ALIZAI** and **JEFFREY HOLLOMON**. **Jae Lin** made a remarkable recovery from a car accident that left him in a coma for weeks and caused him to lose a leg - yet he maintains a high GPA while majoring in mathematics, and plans to be

an engineer. **Patricia** was a charter member for the new chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at the Medical Education campus of the Northern Virginia Community College, and is also an outstanding student academically in the field of Health Information Management. Friba is studying nursing - she fled from Afghanistan to Iran and Pakistan before coming to the US. Despite having to give up studies in her home country because she was a woman, she is now determined to achieve her nursing degree, while rearing three children and supporting an ailing mother and aunt. Jeffrey, who was an indifferent student in high school, realized the importance of education and is now a top student in math and oceanography at NVCC. He wants to become a teacher, to give back some of what he has learned through the excellent teachers at NVCC.

You will have a chance to meet these impressive young people at the **June 2 Forum** meeting, where they will receive their certificates and checks. Thank you again for your generous donations, which make it possible for LLI to help these students achieve their goals.



### **Hospitality Appreciation**

A highlight of each monthly Forum, along with a guest speaker, is the refreshment table, all supplied by volunteers. Scores of members provide cookies, cakes and fruit for all to enjoy; some volunteer more than once while some bring their treats and remain anonymous. Listed below, in alphabetical order, are the contributors who volunteered this year, some of whom have contributed in prior years as well. Your Hospitality Coordinators, Trudy Hynes, and Sally Reynolds, thank all who kept our Forum attendees well supplied with treats.

Dana Beales
Sarah Bell
Ferne Beyer
Norma Booth
Dianna Boyle
Sue Carbo
Helen Clark
Marie Conway
Pat Denny
Jean Downey
Virginia Edgell
Barbara Evans
Virginia Fernbach
Fran Goforth
Janet Goodrich
Arlene Gribben
Kathy Hall

Colletta Hammond Pat Harrison Delsa Hildebrandt Bonnie Hopler Norma Hughes Ben & Carol Jacinto Nancy Jerdan Leona Johnson Jane Jones Shirley Lytle Mary Macke Betty Mahon Marianne Moerman **Dorothy Nance** Mary Oakes Alina Otal Eda Pickholtz Betty Pogerman

Shirley Politte Bev Portman Leah Porzel Linda Rose Jane Rule Arlene Sachs Martha Siemering Anne Solomon Betty Spatz Shelby Stockslager Betty Lee Thatcher Genevieve Thiem Betsy Thunman Gina Trapp Mary Underwood Penny Valvanis Sally Wise

# **Special Interest Groups**

### **Arts & Smarts**

Donna Trogler 703 751-8932 or E-Mail DTrogler@aol.com.

Arts & Smarts will not have a museum tour for either June or July. We are planning a trip to the National Gallery of Art on August 15, 2008 to see Afghanistan: Hidden Treasures from the National Museum, Kabul. Afghanistan's rich cultural heritage is celebrated in this exhibition of extraordinary archaeological treasures. Over 230 items ranging in date from c.2000 BC through AD 200 include gold objects from the famed Bactrian Hoard, a two thousand year-old treasure cache discovered 1n 1978 but hidden from view until 2003. For further information, please contact Donna.



### LLI Bridge Group

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

#### **June Play Dates**

In June, we will play on Wednesday, June

4, and Wednesday, June 18. Location: Mason District Government Center.

Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring a bag lunch. Reminder, we are also playing on Wednesday, May 28. 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

April Results - Top three finishers on April 10 were Lynda Brittain, Mindy Rojahn, and Betty Yeary; for April 30, they were Mary Underwood, Bob Huley, and Nate Rosenbaum. Congratulations to all!



Center - Small Conference Room

- ◆ From where do ethical concepts arise?
- ♦ Is there too much emphasis on religion as distinct from underlying ethical principles?
- ♦ What is the best way of enhancing ethics in government?

Join us to share your ideas or learn more about current events. We give all, who wish, a chance to speak. After an hour, we choose the next topic and then we have open discussion on any topic.

For more information, contact Shirley Lotz (703) 978-2977, email svlotz@alum.wellesley.edu or Pete Schwarzkopf (703) 998-0769, email pschwarzkopf@verizon.net.

### **LLI Current Events Group Summer 2008**

Date: Friday, August 1, 2008

Place: Mason District Governmental Center, Small

Conference Room

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

**Topic:** What is your nomination for the hottest topic of this

summer?

Share your ideas or learn more about current events. We give all, who wish, a chance to speak. After an hour, we choose the next topic and then we have open discussion on any topic. For more information, contact Shirley Lotz (703) 978-2977, Email svlotz@alum.wellesley.edu or Pete Schwarzkopf (703) 998-0769, Email

pschwarzkopf@verizon.net.



#### Favorite Books Club

Arlene Gribben, 703-569-0357, arlenegribben@aol.com

Date: Thursday, June 19 Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Place: George Mason Regional Library's "Meeting Room" -7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale (NOTE: meeting place is in a new location)

The book chosen for June is Suite Française by Irene Nemirovsky. The author planned a 5-volume sequence memoir covering France during the Second World War. The first two volumes tell about the exodus from Paris and the first year of German occupation in a provincial French town. The other three volumes, planned only in outline, were never finished because Ms Nemirovsky died at Auschwitz. The manuscripts of the first two volumes were discovered decades after her death and eventually published.

**LLI Gourmands** 



**Topic:** How can we better incorporate ethical conduct into our way of living and government?

#### Walkabouts



15 Gourmands.

Liddell McLeod, 703-698-8366 (liddell mcl@cox.net)

On Thursday, June 19, Eleanor

McLean. Please call Eleanor at

Shubinski-Mosser has planned the Gourmand lunch at J. Gilbert's in

703-280-2542 if you plan to attend. On

Walkabouts are scheduled on Thursdays, June 12 and June 25. Contact Liddell to add your name to the email list or call for walk locations.

Deadline for September newsletter is August 7.

### Lifetime Learning Institute of Northern Virginia

## **Budget for Fiscal Year 2009**

(1 July 2008 through 30 June 2009)

### **Income & Expenses, Fiscal Year 2009**

Income	
Member Dues	41,250
Interest Income	800
Total	42,050
Expenses	
Administrative Staff	11,200
Financial System	750
Furniture & Equipment/Service	1,000
Conferences/Retreats	850
Honoraria	525
Insurance	1,600
Parking Reimbursement	150
Ernst Center (forum/seminar rooms)	1,500
Classroom Rent	4,200
Office Supplies	1,750
Publications Design	2,800
Outside Printing	6,000
Postage/Mailing	2,500
Teaching Materials	350
Social Events	1,000
Telephone	1,200
Refreshments	3,500
Taxes and Fees	50
Miscellaneous	500
Total	41,425
Allocation to Members Equity\$	625

Approved by the Board of Directors on 9 May 2008

# From the LLI Scrapbook

# May Forum & Open House



May Spotlight on the Forum Team. Back row (l. to r.): Dick DiBuono, Moe Moser, John Bogart, Carol Weber, Betty Lee Thatcher, Terry Brittain, Joe Pincus, Trudy Hynes, Libby Burge. Front row: Martie Klee, Ginny Moser, Colletta Hammond, Laura Charron, Leah Porzel, Sally Reynolds.



LLI President Dick DiBuono at the May Forum thanking U.S. Postal Service speakers Regina Parks, Rotonna Mullen, and Michael Butler.



Trunk full of May donations to Koinonia

# Mew Special Enterest Oroup

### **Needle Crafts**

At its May 9 meeting, the Board supported the initiation of a new LLI Special Interest Group (SIG) for those interested in needle crafts (knitting, crochet, X-stitching, crewel, needlepoint, etc.). Anyone interested in being on the E-Mail List (or called) about the progress of this new group should contact Mary Underwood (E-Mail, maryunderwood29@verizon.net; phone, 703-329-8391). During the next several weeks logistical arrangements will begin to activate this new SIG.



### 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://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 May 23, 2008



