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March 2001 Volume 5 – Number 3

## March 5 Forum Speaker Is U.S. State Department Director of Mexican Affairs

r. John Dawson, LLI's March Forum speaker, will give us information on future relations between the United States and Mexico. Both countries have new Presidents who are committed to improving relations, expanding partnerships, and considering the creation of a North American common market.

It should be an interesting talk for all. See you on March 5th!

### **Membership Update**

Changes/corrections in e-mail addresses:

- Phil Reeves: preeves@gis.net (not reeves@gis.net)
- ➤ Helen Clark: haclark@starpower.net (not haclark@erols.com)
- Louise Terril: ljt2@aol.com
- > Eda Pickholtz: Delete e-mail address

#### Address correction:

Gibben's Apt. # should be 0, not 1.

#### New members:

- Joyce and Alan B. Chubb, 4233 Elizabeth Lane, Annandale, VA 22003 (703) 425-1279
- Ms. Grete Fidjestol, 9404 Colonade Drive, Vienna, VA 22181 (703) 255-4835; e-mail: fidjestol@msn.com
- Mandy Holt, 3500 Georges Lane, Falls Church, VA 22044 (703) 256-0618
- Elizabeth Kuykendall, Apt. 331, 805 N. Howard St., Alexandria, VA 22304 (703) 751-4383
- Mary C. Ryan, 8249 Branch Road, Annandale, VA 22003 (703) 978-3437
- Arline and Sidney Sachs, 6212 Thomas Drive, Springfield, VA 22150-1220 (703) 971-2092
- Arthur A. Thue, P.E., 3187 Stonehurst Drive, Fairfax, VA 22031 (703) 273-3575

#### The Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will gather after the March Forum at DAKS Grill, 5838 Columbia Pike, Falls Church (next to the Bailey's Crossroad shopping center), (703) 820-3333. Lunch features soups, salads, sandwiches, etc., and prices are reasonable. Directions:

From NOVA, turn right on 236 and proceed to Annandale, turn left on John Marr Drive to Columbia Pike and right on Columbia Pike toward Route 7. As you near Bailey's Crossroad, you will pass DAKS on the left before reaching the shopping center. At entrance to shopping center make U-turn to get to DAKS' parking area, which is next to the Amoco Station. Call John Bogart at (703) 273-2547 for information.

## Spring 2001 Courses Are A Hit!

Almost 75% of our 301 members have registered for at least one course; some have signed up for as many as 8 or 10. The Board of Directors is pleased with the response, and sees it as a sign of great interest in the wide range of subjects being offered. LLI members handling registrations have been very busy during the past few weeks processing your requests. Our Administrative Director, Laura Charron, expertly coordinated the work of several volunteers — Mary Virginia Baynes, Debbie Birnberg, Victoria Blackman, Bev Portman, and Lucy Scheer. A special thanks to everyone involved.

Several courses have proven to be so popular that we have had to place some of you on waiting lists because of classroom size and/or the nature of the course. If you are on a waiting list for a particular course, you may receive a call from the instructor telling you that he or she has a slot for you. How does the instructor make this



decision? Primarily by an accepted registrant calling the instructor to say that he or she has had a change of plans and will be unable to attend. Additionally, the instructor may contact people on the waiting list after assessing attendance patterns following the first couple of classes. You would still benefit from some of the multiple session courses even if you were not able to attend at the start.

We strongly encourage all registrants to call instructors (their telephone numbers are provided in the course catalogue) if you will not be attending a course for which you were accepted. Your fellow LLI members will appreciate your consideration.

### **Special Interest Groups**

Discussion Group

Friday, March 9, 10:00-11:30 a.m., Ernst Cultural Center; Seminar Room A. **Topic:** "Terrorism"; Resource person: Dr. Carl Steiner; *Organizer: Tom Buchanan (703) 281-4894* 

#### Financial Forum

The Financial Forum had a great start. The first meeting, on February 5, opened with presentations by members Ted Krivoruchka on corporate "Annual Reports" and John Manion on "The Best Websites for Investors." Chaired by member Warren Hynes, the 20 members present were surveyed for ideas concerning future programs. Board members Lorin Goodrich and Ted Krivoruchka spearheaded this undertaking. Next meeting: Monday, March 5, immediately following the March Forum. Location: Theater in the Ernst Cultural Center Speaker: Ms. Nancy Bullock, a leader of investor workshops presented by the American Association of Individual Investors. **Topics** will include risk management and asset allocation for senior citizens. The meeting will conclude by 1:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

#### Theater Group

Sunday, March 25 — 4:00 p.m.: George Mason University Theater — Perseus Bayou, a musical retelling of the "Perseus Myth." Tickets: \$18.75 per person. Garage parking is an additional \$4.00. Reservations must be received by LLI no later than March 6 — please do not send parking fee to LLI.

Sunday, May 5 — 2:30 p.m.: American Century Theater, Gunston Arts Center, Arlington, VA — Hotel Universe, a Philip Barry comedy about American "blue bloods." Ticket price: \$11.25 per person. Reservations must be received by LLI no later than April 20.

## The President's Corner

Our popularity continues to grow as more and more folks hear about the great programs being offered by LLI at such a reasonable price. Membership has now passed the 300 mark. The Board's consensus is that we don't want to get too big, so a decision on capping membership will be made at our April Board meeting. We will continue to accept renewals, but may limit the number of new members to keep within a number we feel we can handle comfortably. Major concerns are maintaining the ability to provide courses and programs for our membership and continuing the sociability offered by a smaller group.

Members signed up in record numbers for courses in our spring semester, with just a few programs having waiting lists. Our computer classes still are the most popular, but we are limited in the number we can accommodate by the number of computers available in NOVA's computer lab. Many of our courses are at their maximum size. The number of people we can accept for a given course depends on the wishes of the instructor and the size of the classroom.

Jean Packard is heading up our Nominating Committee. We are looking for members who are interested in serving on our Board next year. If you would like to be considered, or wish to nominate someone, please call Jean at (703) 978-4782 or e-mail: jeanp22032@aol.com.

Hope to see you in class or at our next Forum.

Alan Mayer

Sunday, June 24 — 3:00 p.m.: Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe Street, Alexandria, VA — *Proposals*, Neil Simon's critically acclaimed comedy that reunites the Hines family in their Pocono oasis during the sizzling summer of 1953. Experience the warmth and humor of this reunion where unresolved family issues and romantic entanglements intertwine, bringing laughter and tears. Tickets: \$10.75 per person. Reservations must be received by LLI no later than June 3.

### **Bylaws Amendment**

The Board of Directors recommends that LLI Bylaws be amended to clarify the naming and makeup of the Nominating Committee (Article VII.2). The Board believes that appointing a nominating committee a full year prior to the election is cumbersome and unnecessary. Therefore, the following amended wording will be placed before the membership at the April Forum meeting. New language is shown in bold face and unneeded wording shown by strike-through:

2. Nominating Committee: A Nominating Committee shall consisting of three (3) Board members and two (2) non-Board members shall be elected at the annual meeting. The Nominating Committee Chairperson shall be appointed by the President. This Chairperson shall recommend an additional the other four (4) members of the Nominating Committee to the Board of Directors for approval. The Committee shall submit to the general membership those Board candidates recommended for election, pursuant to Article IV.

### **Nominating Committee**

A Nominating Committee, consisting of Jean Packard, chair; Marjorie Clark; Warren Hynes; John Bogart; and Jack Barringer, has been appointed by the LLI Board of Directors to prepare a slate of candidates for presentation at the annual meeting. Of the five current Board members whose terms expire this year, four have chosen not to run again.

If you have any suggestions for potential Board members, or are interested in running yourself, please contact one of the committee members as soon as possible. Nominations from the floor also will be accepted at the annual meeting.

## WARNING: Telephone Scam

Do not respond to any request to call a number with an 809 area code. This code is outside the borders of the Unilted States and thus is not subject to constraints applied by U.S. regulatory bodies. It is

of a call to any such number will result in a charge of

alleged that the initial minute

\$2,400.

#### **Trip Update**

There are still some spaces left for anyone interested in going on the tour of Oatlands Plantation, with lunch at the Laurel Brigade Inn, and a walking tour of Leesburg — Friday, April 6 (\$45 members; \$50 nonmembers). Details are on page 12 of the Spring Program 2001 catalogue. Deadline for receipt of registrations is March 14; please use the form on Page 19 of the catalogue.

Information about the Charter Elderhostel for LLI at Rehoboth Beach, DE from Sunday, June 10 to Friday, June 15, also appears on page 12 of the Spring catalogue. Space is still available; the deadline is March 1, and a deposit of \$120 per person must be received with the registration form (see page 21 of the catalogue).

### LLI Study / Travel Update

The Italian trip is sold out. Italian study classes begin March 13th at Chapel Square. There are still openings on the September 7th Volga cruise. If interested call John Bogart (703) 273-2547.

#### **Membership Renewal**

Please check the mailing label on the envelope for your membership renewal date. Application forms are in the Spring catalog. If your renewal is due (or past due), please send in your check so that you are eligible to attend Spring classes.

#### **Future Forums**

Guest speakers scheduled for the next few forums are representatives of the following:

- U.S. Census Bureau April 2
- Russian Cultural Center May 7
- Federal Communications Consumer Office June 4

Please mark these dates on your calendar and be sure to join us to hear these informative speakers.



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

President: Alan Mayer
Vice President: Lorin Goodrich
Secretary: Philip Reeves
Treasurer: John Manion
Past President: Knox Singleton

Members: Helen Clark, Marjorie Clark, Mary Davis, Gordon Hamlet, Warren Hynes, Gladys Keating, Ted Krivoruchka, Nan Liner, Memphis Norman, Jean Packard, Ann Rourke

### **Spring Course Updates**

- Our Computer Courses are always oversubscribed. If you are wait-listed you will be given priority registration privileges the next time the courses are offered.
- Course 1329, "The World's Religions," was so popular that we obtained a larger room at the Falls Church Presbyterian Church. Classes wil now be held in room 301 instead of room 120.
- Course 1303, "Science for the Non-Scientist:" The second session will be held on April 9 instead of April 2 to avoid conflict with the April "Forum" meeting.
- ➤ Course 1305, "The United States and the European Union:" In order to accommodate an instructor schedule conflict. the last three class sessions have been changed to Tuesdays, April 10, 17, and 24. The first two sessions will be held on Mondays, March 19 and 26, as published in the course catalogue. We apologize for the schedule change and hope it does not result in a conflict with another course you may be taking.
- Course 1311, Romeo and Juliet Multimedia Style, has been cancelled.

#### Notes:

- ➤ Be sure to check the starting time for the courses you plan to attend. There may be a variation from the usual 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. starts.
- Class cancellations due to inclement weather: refer to Page iii of the Spring 2001 course catalogue.

# Planning for Summer 2001 Courses Is Underway

Although it may be several months away, Helen Clark and her program committee are starting to plan for course offerings during the summer. Typically, fewer classes are given in the summer, but Helen would welcome any suggestions you may have for a course—or you may even want to teach one. Call her at (703) 573-1671, or send her an e-mail at haclark@starpower.net.

## Do You Have a Talent to Share?

NVCC (Annandale) welcomes you to share your skills and talents with the students. Possibilities are guest lecturing, tutoring, and mentoring. Give the LLI office a call at (703) 503-0600, and arrangements will be made with the appropriate NVCC (Annandale) department.

# LLI Uses Many Off-Campus Locations

Recently the Elderhostel Institute Network (EIN) asked us to describe our use of multiple sites for courses since the approach might benefit other institutes faced with space issues. The following article, prepared by LLI vice president Lorin Goodrich, has been placed on the EIN website. We thought you might find it of interest.

## LLI of Northern Virginia Uses Many Off-Campus Locations

Out of necessity the Lifetime Learning Institute of Northern Virginia (LLI) uses between 10 and 16 sites for class rooms each term and most are not on the Annandale campus of the Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) with which the Institute is affiliated.

In just 5 years LLI has grown from 38 to about 300 members, and its course offerings have increased from about a dozen to over 30 each term. Although NVCC (Annandale) is supportive of the Institute it is faced with having to accommodate an expanding student enrollment in the same space. Therefore, LLI's physical campus presence is limited to a small office, the use of a large meeting room for monthly all-members meetings, and the occasional use of a computer lab or a conference room for classes. This means we have to find classroom space for most of our courses that is as close by as possible.

These off-campus facilities consist of churches, senior living facilities, community centers, local government buildings and instructor homes. We have found that the dispersal has brought us members just by having a presence throughout a relatively wide area. Indeed during this past year a few community and senior living centers have asked us to consider them for our courses.

Of course considerable time must be devoted to administering the off-campus task. During curriculum planning for each term a number of factors come into play when deciding on locations—instructor preference (all are volunteers), class size, audio-visual requirements, parking, availability for desired class schedule, course location vis-à-vis LLI member residences and rental cost. We rent space at churches and in exchange for no charge for space at senior living facilities their residents can attend the LLI courses offered at the particular facility without having to pay our membership fee. There is no charge for using community and government centers.

After all of the logistics are set there may be occasions when our volunteer instructors need to change their availability or we find that more members than expected register for a particular course. Then its "off-to-the-races" to make these last-minute changes!!