



Active Adults  
Inspired Learning  
Travel & Friendship

NOVA Annandale Campus.  
View of the CF Building overlooking the lake.

Volume 26—Number 6

# News & Views

June 2022

**Wednesday, June 1**

**LLI/NOVA FORUM VIA ZOOM**

**9:30 a.m. Membership Meeting/Election of Board**

**Forum Presentation: 10:00 a.m.** (Click on the link in the upcoming email announcement)

## **FAIRFAX COUNTY URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE TASK FORCE**



The Fairfax County International Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) resource, sponsored by the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, responds to both domestic and international disasters. Since 1986, Task Force members have been at the forefront in assisting in the development of response systems both domestically and internationally. At our Forum they will share their history and many real-life emergencies to which they have responded. They make us proud, so don't miss this chance to show our support and to learn about their work.

There are approximately 200 trained and equipped members on the Task Force, including 70 volunteer and career firefighters and paramedics from the Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department, as well as many highly trained civilians. The latter includes physicians, canine handlers, structural engineers, communications experts, and heavy rigging specialists. Deployed with little or no advance notice, members and their families must be able to accommodate and adjust to restrictions of a 14-day mission, often without communications home. Non-deployed co-workers often work extra shifts while the Task Force is away.

The Task Force works with USAID, FEMA, and the UN, and is a premier leader in providing training in catastrophic event mitigation, readiness, and response and recovery techniques. By assisting in the development and enhancement of other search and rescue resources, the Task Force lessens the necessity of being deployed. It is proud to be one of only 28 domestic resources qualified by FEMA to assist with Homeland Security, and one of two resources utilized by USAID for international response.



## President's Message



Please come to our Annual Membership Meeting held on Zoom at 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, June 1. The meeting will immediately precede, and conclude in time for, our Forum at 10:00 a.m. We

will cover three very important issues: the review of our FY2023 budget, assessment of our financial health, and the election of our Board officers and members. See the next article for more information about this important meeting.

I mentioned in last month's newsletter several initiatives that your LLI Board has been taking to grow our membership back to pre-pandemic levels. One of them is the collaboration between LLI and Arlington-based Encore Learning (EL). Both organizations offer continuing education classes, Special Interest Groups, local excursions, and socializing opportunities. Our differences include class duration, scheduling (EL does not have a summer session), LLI's Study/Travel Program, and fee structures. Two of the initial steps in the collaboration include (1) mentioning a few of each other's programs on our respective websites and newsletters and (2) making several classes mutually available to our memberships. Several EL members participated in our City Nature Challenge on May 1 at Mason District Park. We are discussing offering EL members the opportunity to attend "summer camp" – memberships that would allow them to participate in LLI's summer programs – and also to join as full LLI members if they choose. Julianne Wojay, a member of both organizations, has been the driving force behind this collaboration.

This month's "shout-out" goes to LLI/NOVA's Curriculum Committee Chair, Dick Robison. Dick has been an LLI member since 2010, has

served as chair of the Curriculum Committee since 2019 and as a Board member since 2020. He and his committee have consistently presented LLI members with interesting and stimulating classes – about 130 in this fiscal year alone. Dick attends almost all of the classes, recruits and assists all of the class coordinators, and has been helpful in providing class and instructor contact information to groups with whom we are collaborating. Dick has hosted every Zoom Forum and Board meeting over the last year. I have come to rely on Dick's wise counsel, thoughtful advice, and timely technical assistance. Thank you, Dick!

Derick Malis  
LLI/NOVA President

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## Annual Membership Meeting



LLI/NOVA's bylaws require us to have an annual membership meeting to accomplish three actions:

1. Elect Officers and members of the Board of Directors. Refer to the article below for details.
2. Present the approved budget for the next fiscal year. The budget is discussed below and is included in this newsletter (see page 8). We will briefly review the key budget items and considerations at the annual membership meeting.
3. Provide a statement of financial condition prepared by the Budget and Finance Committee (which is based on the annual review of LLI's finances by the Financial Review Committee, available [here](#)).

We hope that you will join us at our membership meeting on Wednesday, June 1, starting promptly at 9:30 a.m. The important tasks listed above will be completed in time for our June Forum speaker to begin his/her presentation at 10:00 a.m., so please plan to attend both.

## Voting for LLI/NOVA 2022/2023 Board Members and Officers



The election for LLI/NOVA's 2022/2023 Board of Directors and Officers will take place on June 1 at 9:30 a.m. at our annual membership meeting. The election requires a quorum, so if you know in advance that you won't be able to vote on June 1, please send an email to [Pat Neri](#) to vote for our slate of candidates. You may vote on the entire slate at once (i.e., "I approve the slate of board members and officers proposed by the nominating committee, as listed in the May newsletter.") Our Board of Directors is made up of 15 members elected by the membership. Board members serve a three-year term with five Board member terms expiring annually. If a position becomes vacant, a new member is elected to complete the unexpired term.

The slate of candidates for the Board is as follows:

Board candidates for three-year terms ending June 30, 2025:

- Gina Trapp
- David Drachsler
- Richard Ackerman
- Cathy Becker
- Debbie Cohen

Candidates to fill terms ending June 30, 2023:

- Patti Volz
- Richard Martin

LLI/NOVA has four officer positions elected by the membership from among the Board members. Officers serve a one-year term.

- President: Derick Malis
- Vice President: Patti Volz
- Treasurer: Debbie Cohen
- Secretary: Gina Trapp

See the May newsletter for complete bios of these candidates.

Board members continuing their terms (no vote required):

- Fritz Ernst (term ends June 2023)
- Dina Cotlier (term ends June 2023)
- Dick Robison (term ends June 2023)
- Steven Cohen (term ends June 2024)
- Derick Malis (term ends June 2024)
- Paul Massell (term ends June 2024)
- Mary Alexander (term ends June 2024)
- Carol Fagnani (term ends June 2024)
- Anna Dixon (serving as past president)

## FY2023 Budget

LLI's bylaws require that the Budget & Finance Committee present our annual budget to our membership at the annual membership meeting. The LLI Board of Directors approved our fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023) at its May 13 meeting. The budget is included in this newsletter (see page 8) and will be reviewed at the annual meeting on June 1.



Membership dues are our primary source of income. Our membership has decreased to 269 (from 361 as of December 2019, prior to the start of the pandemic). As LLI resumes more in-person classes, SIGs, Forums, and events, and reinvigorates our study/travel program, we anticipate that our membership will increase by at least 25 members in FY2023, and rise to over 300 the following year. Given this expectation and our membership campaign's outreach materials that state the current cost of membership, the Board has voted to maintain the cost of membership at \$110. This decision will be reevaluated mid-year.

Our expenses are largely fixed – our largest expense is our part-time administrator, followed by rent for the Ernst Center, and classroom rental. Our FY2023 budget includes six in-person Forums and three Zoom Forums.



Holding three Forums via Zoom reduces our costs, eliminates the possibility of having to cancel Forums due to inclement weather in the winter, and provides the opportunity for interesting speakers from outside Northern Virginia. To reduce costs, we will provide coffee only at our first in-person Forum. Rest-assured that goodies will still be available!

Due to our reduced membership levels, holding dues to \$110 per year, and our largely fixed expenses, our approved budget projects a significant deficit for FY2023. Because of very conservative financial management of LLI/NOVA funds during the past 25 years, we currently have sufficient net assets (i.e., savings, both in operations funds and an emergency fund) to offset this year's expected budget deficit. LLI/NOVA remains very healthy financially, but the real key to our continued organizational health is recruiting and retaining members.

If you have any questions about LLI/NOVA's FY2023 budget, contact [Loren Brandman](#), Chair, Budget & Finance Committee.

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## Community Outreach



This month we recognize three organizations helping those in need of food:

**Food for Others** -- accepts donations of home-grown produce! They even take herbs.

Think ahead as you plant those tomatoes, zucchini, and other foods, knowing you'll have opportunities to share: 2938 Prosperity Ave, Fairfax 22031, 703-207-9173, website: [Food for Others](#).

**Koinonia Foundation** -- their food pantry is requesting fresh vegetables and fruit, as well as laundry and cleaning supplies and spring and summer clothes. Open Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and some Saturdays:

6037 Franconia Road (or PO Box 30878 if mailing a check), Alexandria 22310, 703-971-1991, website: [koinoniacares.org](#)

**ECHO** -- provides clients about 6,000 pounds of food each week. Amazing! Some of the items in short supply include: peanut butter, honey, coffee, boxed rice, canned tomatoes, canned fruit, mayonnaise, sugar, and juice or milk (pouches or large bottles). They also need spring and summer clothes, especially for men and teen boys. Open Monday through Friday 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and some additional hours, 7205 Old Keene Mill Rd, Springfield 22150, 703-569-7972, website: [ECHO-inc.org](#)

Joyce and Betsy appreciate hearing that our members actively respond to these food requests. There's a lot of need, and LLI folks keep helping. Thank you!

POCs: Betsy Pugin, [betsy.pugin@gmail.com](mailto:betsy.pugin@gmail.com)  
Joyce Pomeroy: [lj.pomeroy@gmail.com](mailto:lj.pomeroy@gmail.com)

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## Special Zoom class

### SCOTUS: Where Will the Wall of Separation of Church and State Be?



LLI members are invited to join an Encore Learning Presents event, co-sponsored by the Arlington Public Library.

**Monday, June 13  
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

**Speaker:** Rob Boston, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, author

According to [Thomas Jefferson](#), the First Amendment to the Constitution erects a "wall of separation between church and state" making the U.S. the first country to do so. Should nationalism movements change that?

The strength of that wall has varied over the years, and some scholars contend that recent U.S. Supreme Court (SCOTUS) decisions are

undermining it. Our speaker will address the ramifications of this and related topics:

- Role of religion in public education
- Tax funding of religious entities
- Intersection between religion and politics
- LGBTQ bullying, equality, and suicide
- Government's use of religion in a symbolic manner
- Resurgence of Christian nationalism as a political force

Rob Boston has worked at Americans United for Separation of Church and State for nearly 35 years and has authored four books on church-state relations. Prominent media appearances include CNN, *NBC Nightly News*, Fox News Channel's *The O'Reilly Factor* and MSNBC's *Countdown with Keith Olbermann*.

This event could not be more relevant today, so be sure to take advantage of this great opportunity!

**Advance registration is not required**, and this free Zoom event is open to all. You may be prompted to enter your name and email address before being admitted to the webinar. Use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84268052749>

Or dial in by phone (for audio only): 301-715-8592. Meeting ID: 842 6805 2749

Questions? Email [info@encorelearning.net](mailto:info@encorelearning.net).



## Welcome, New Members!

We hope you will participate in our classes and volunteer your time and talent.

- Joan Sacarob – she heard about LLI from her friend Phil Centini
- Richard Signman – read about LLI in the Golden Gazette.



## Special Interest Groups

### Photography



There will be no meeting in June nor in August, but we WILL meet July 15.

Contact Buck Myers, [hbm@hbmphoto.com](mailto:hbm@hbmphoto.com)

### Financial Discussion



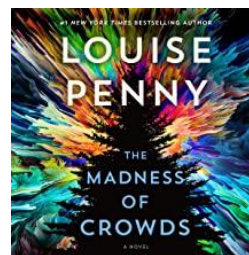
Thursday, June 9  
1:00 p.m. on Zoom.

Those interested should contact Doug Johnson at

[llinovadoug@gmail.com](mailto:llinovadoug@gmail.com) to get the link.

We will not hold meetings in July nor August.

### Mystery Book Club



Monday, June 6  
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

"The Madness of Crowds"  
by Louise Penny

Location: Kings Park  
Library

We will not hold book club meetings in July nor August. When we meet in September, we will discuss "Bootlegger's Daughter," which has been rescheduled from our May meeting, when our presenter had to cancel due to illness.

POC Mary Lu Bednarsky, [mbednarsky@gmail.com](mailto:mbednarsky@gmail.com)

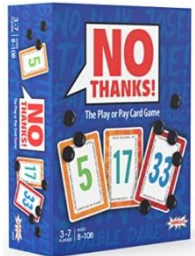
## Tabletop Games



Wednesday, May 25  
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Kings Park Library  
Join us for Las Vegas Royale.

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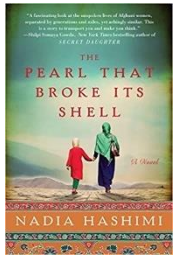


Wednesday, June 22  
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

We will be learning a new game called "No Thanks"

POC Mary Lu Bednarsky,  
[mlbednarsky@gmail.com](mailto:mlbednarsky@gmail.com)

## Favorite Books Club



Thursday, June 16  
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

"The Pearl that Broke Its Shell"  
by Nadia Hashimi

Location: Braddock District  
Governmental Center

Set in Afghanistan, this novel interweaves the stories of Rahima and Shekiba, separated by a century, yet facing the same restrictive lifestyle forced on women. Their only hope lies in bacha posh, an ancient custom, which allows a girl to dress and act as a boy until she is of marriageable age. But what will happen then?

Questions? Contact Lynne Smaldone

Note: we will not meet in July or August.



## Don't miss the Annual Membership Meeting!

**Wednesday, June 1, 9:30 a.m. (before the Forum)**

- Vote for next year's Board members and officers
- Review next year's budget
- Hear about LLI's financial health



## Foodies & Friends

Thursday, June 23  
12:30

**Jerusalem Restaurant**  
3400 Washington Drive, Unit A,  
Bailey's Crossroads



Foodies & Friends invite you (feel free to bring a pal) to join us as we sample the cuisine of the Middle East. Jerusalem Restaurant offers fresh, natural, home-style foods with "Holy Land" authenticity. The menu consists of traditional Middle Eastern cuisine such as Makluba, rice casserole with vegetables, and chicken or lamb turned upside down. Kibbeh Balls, another entrée, consists of ground lamb balls stuffed with spices and pine nuts and deep fried -- a Jerusalem favorite. There is great regional variety. Other options include North African home style couscous, traditional lamb stew from the Gulf, kabobs, or the international favorite, falafel/chick pea croquettes sandwich. Equally important, their in-house bakery produces traditional Middle Eastern pastry and Arabic bread. There is plenty of free parking and the restaurant is handicap accessible. Individual checks will be provided.

Please respond to our host, Patti Volz at [pvolz63@gmail.com](mailto:pvolz63@gmail.com) no later than June 17.

## In Memoriam for Marion (Moe) Moser



Longtime LLI/NOVA member Moe Moser passed away April 15, 2022. Moe joined LLI/NOVA in August 2004 along with his late wife, Ginny, and soon became an active participant. He served on the Curriculum Committee for several years, acquiring classroom space for our courses. Moe was described as unflappable because this task required him to deal with many venues, including various churches, retirement communities, and NOVA Annandale, along with a variety of contact persons, while always striving to keep our costs to a minimum. He accomplished all this in a quiet, seemingly effortless manner, and always with a smile. Moe served two terms on the Board of Directors (July 2008-June 2011 and July 2011-June 2014), and was an integral part of the Forum Committee, researching and arranging for the many quality speakers we have enjoyed for years at the LLI/NOVA Forums. He served on the Nominating Committee for two years and was the official LLI/NOVA photographer for many years, taking photos at the Forums, social gatherings, and other events. Moe also provided assistance to the Trips Committee, arranging for day and overnight excursions.

In March 2016, Moe was featured in the LLI/NOVA newsletter "Honor Circle" where he was recognized for his many contributions to LLI/NOVA. In particular, he was commended for his good humor, friendliness, and the good will he made for LLI/NOVA through his contacts, along with his willingness to generously volunteer his time on our behalf.

Moe and Ginny became involved in the Unitarian Universalist Church while living in Chicago, and they were instrumental in the establishment of the Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church in Burke, Virginia, where they both sang in the choir. Moe also enjoyed playing bridge and attending his grandchildren's sporting events, plays, and musical performances, and was a dedicated fan of the Washington Nationals.

Moe was born in Dalton, Ohio, and was the grandson of a Mennonite minister who conducted services in German. He graduated from Kent State University, where he received both his B.A. and M.A., and was president of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. After college, Moe met Ginny on a blind date while he was waiting to enter the U.S. Navy. He always said, "She was the best thing that ever happened in my life." Moe served in the Navy for two years before settling in Virginia. He worked at the Office of Personnel Management and retired after 25 years of service after which he worked as a consultant.

In learning of Moe's passing, several LLI/NOVA members described him as "a true gentleman who treated everyone with kindness and a smile." His contributions to LLI/NOVA will long be remembered and appreciated.





# Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023) Budget

Approved by the LLI Board of Directors on May 13, 2022

<u>Account Description</u>	<u>FY 2023 Budget</u>
<b>Income</b>	
Dues Income	\$31,900
Social Events (Winter Party)	\$4,000
Class Fees	\$990
Interest	\$300
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$37,190</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Administrative Staff	\$20,704
Financial System	\$100
Conferences/Retreats	\$300
Honoraria	\$700
Insurance	\$1,456
Classroom Rental	\$2,363
Classroom Rental (Richard Risk account)	\$320
Ernst Center	\$3,521
Office Supplies	\$550
Outside Printing	\$150
Postage/Mail	\$350
Teaching Materials	\$1,400
Web Maintenance	\$1,000
Web Support	\$2,000
Credit Card Expense	\$900
Refreshments	\$320
Miscellaneous	\$150
Membership Outreach	\$750
Social Events (Winter Party)	\$4,000
Taxes and Fees	\$50
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$41,084</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-\$3,894</b>