



# News & Views

Volume 27—Number 3

March 2023

**Wednesday, March 1**

## **LLI/NOVA FORUM VIA ZOOM**

Social Zoom: 9:30 a.m. Announcements: 9:50 a.m. **Forum Presentation: 10:00 a.m.**  
(Click the link in the upcoming email announcement)

### **About Arch -- “The Accidental Critic”**



Arch Campbell is a local legend. He has reported on and critiqued movies, theater, and entertainment events in Washington, D.C., and nationally since the 1970s. His career included 32 years at NBC, as well as eight years with WJLA7 News and News Channel 8. He currently does movie and entertainment reviews as co-host of "At the Movies with Arch and Ann," a weekly podcast with Washington Post lead film critic Ann Hornaday.

Campbell moved to DC from his native Texas in 1974 to join NBC-owned WRC-TV News as a feature reporter. There he created the entertainment beat and hosted twice-daily segments on the local news. NBC syndicated Arch's movie reviews nationally. From 1985-1990, he hosted "The Arch Campbell Show," a late-night comedy forum hit that won more than a dozen Emmy awards. In 2007, Arch took his movie and theater reviews to ABC-7 News. He created "The Arch Campbell Show" for News Channel 8. The comedy entertainment show grew into the channel's most watched program.

Washingtonian Magazine named him a "Washingtonian of the Year" in 2015 as one of the city's leading arts advocates. He has won eight Emmy awards. In 2016, the National Capitol Radio TV Museum honored him with the Ed Walker Lifetime Achievement Award, named after a Radio Hall of Fame winner in 2009.

Arch supports several Washington, D.C., charities including the Avalon Theatre, Sibley Hospital, and the Greater Washington Community Foundation. Arch is a colon cancer survivor and mentors patients and advocates for colonoscopies. He and his wife, Gina, sponsor the Jean Longwith Scholarship Fund at San Antonio College in his hometown. Arch graduated from the University of Texas with a Bachelor's degree in Radio/TV/Film and a Master's degree in Journalism.



*Material and photos are from Arch Campbell's website:  
[Arch Campbell: About Arch.](#)*

Please join us for this Zoom Forum that promises interesting stories, great fun, and laughs.

## President's Message



We have wonderful opportunities to attend enjoyable events at the NOVA Community College/ Annandale campus, with which LLI/NOVA is affiliated.

For example, on Monday, January 30, NOVA had a "Pack the Gym" event for the men's basketball team. This was our Nighthawk men's home opener, playing against Dundalk (Baltimore) Community College. Parking was free as were the popcorn, drinks, and swag. There was a half-time shooting competition as well as a give-away of NOVA Nighthawk jackets. All men's and women's home games are played in the gymnasium of the Ernst Center. See the [NOVA website](#) for game schedules. I was delighted that at least six LLI members, including three of our Board members, attended and supported the event.

On February 8, Board members Anna Dixon, Richard Martin, and I met with the NOVA/Annandale Provost Dr. Diane Mucci. She could not have been more encouraging of LLI members' attendance at campus events. She recommended we help celebrate Black History Month at the film screening of the "Ginny Battle Story" and at Soul Food Dinner night. See page 4 of this newsletter for details. In fact, we plan to continue to advertise NOVA events that you may enjoy. The athletic and cultural events generally are free. Parking is free after 3:45 p.m. and on weekends. Otherwise, the usual \$2/hour fee applies.

On February 4, numerous LLI members joined with family and friends of Nan Peck, who passed away in October, to celebrate her life. Held at Greenspring Senior Living, this offered an opportunity for many attendees to share impassioned testimonies about Nan's love of athletics, her creativity, her professionalism, and her selflessness toward her friends, family, and colleagues. Nan's contributions to LLI were

legion: coordinator and instructor for numerous classes, liaison with NOVA administration, recruiter of professors to teach LLI classes, Board member, tireless LLI promoter, and recipient of LLI/NOVA's initial (2022) Meritorious Service Award. We plan to offer a scholarship in Nan's name.

I recently attended the wonderful opera "Fellow Travelers" at GMU through our Visual and Performing Arts Special Interest Group. The Chair of that SIG, Anna Dixon, had arranged for hugely discounted tickets. If you hurry, you can still buy discounted tickets for the next GMU show on February 25, "Syncopated Ladies," featuring a fierce all-female troupe of hoofers.

Also, please note (see page 6) that our Cultural Excursions Committee has arranged for three outstanding garden tours for April and May.

Derick Malis  
LLI/NOVA President

## Hospitality Committee Volunteers



Cookies, donuts, and coffee at every Forum? Yum! How do those goodies get there? Well, they come from LLI members like you! But, it does take a bit of planning by the Hospitality

Committee, which is in need of a few volunteers, including a chairperson. The mission is fun, and there are not a lot of duties. Mainly, they are to ensure refreshments are set up by 9:30 a.m. on Forum mornings, keep track of food-providing volunteers, and have greeters at the Forum entrances to welcome attendees as they arrive.



Please consider joining our Hospitality Committee. You will provide a delightful service, and it is a great way to meet other LLI members. Contact Mary Alexander at [mary@mkalexander.com](mailto:mary@mkalexander.com) or Patti Volz at [pvolz63@gmail.com](mailto:pvolz63@gmail.com).

## LLI Membership Benefits

Pass the good word about LLI to your friends, neighbors, and acquaintances -- we need to recruit new members! For the incredibly low price of \$110/year, they can enrich their lives by participating in LLI offerings and making new friends. An LLI membership provides:

- Frequent socialization opportunities
- More than 130 90-minute single-session classes listed in three online catalogs/year
  - Virtual and in-person classes
  - History, science, finance, and more
  - Expert speakers, e.g., NOVA faculty
  - Ability to propose new classes
- Easy-to-use, informative website
- Classes through Encore Learning and AARP
- Eight-week Great Decisions program
- Monthly Forum with prominent speaker
- Winter luncheon and toy drive
- Special Interest Groups
  - Contract Bridge
  - Foodies and Friends (restaurant sampling)
  - Photography
  - Mystery Books
  - Favorite Books
  - Tabletop Games
  - Visual and Performing Arts
- Cultural excursion day trips
- *Jewels of Ireland* trip, May 2023



Welcome to our newest members:

- Dot Blain
- Elsa Hobart
- Suzanne Holland
- Jean Lockhart
- Maureen Mullin

## Community Outreach



This month we recognize the work of a nearby (Kingstowne) food pantry, Koinonia, whose motto is “We all need a helping hand sometimes.”

We will not be able to collect donated items at the March Forum because it will be virtual. So please “provide a helping hand” by sending a check or Dollar Tree gift card to Koinonia Foundation, Inc., PO Box 30878, Alexandria, VA 22310.

Pantry items may also be provided in person. Operating hours and specific needs may be found [here](#). (In general, Koinonia is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) They are located at 6037 Franconia Rd., Alexandria.

If you or a family member are a runner, please consider supporting the March 25 “You’re Not Alone” 5K Fun Run, a community outreach event in Kingstowne. This event is sponsored by Celebrate Fairfax and several local foundations. The goal is to make residents aware of available wellness, mental health, and suicide prevention resources, and to collect food to support the community. All the non-perishables and money raised will help Koinonia and another local pantry.

Thanks for your “helping hand” in whatever way you can.

Betsy Pugin and Joyce Pomeroy (see online member directory for contact information)





Encore Learning is offering the following event to LLI members. No advance registration is required. Just connect to this free event online via Zoom:

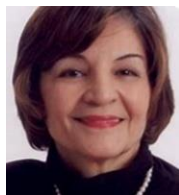
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84268052749>

- Monday, February 27, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.  
 “Need to Know, World War II and the Rise of American Intelligence”  
 Speaker: Nicholas Reynolds, a WWII historian, former CIA officer, and author.  
 Find more details [here](#).

## NOVA Lyceum Speaker Series

### “Courageous Women of Iran”

Wednesday, March 1, 1:00 p.m. in CA 302



Speaker: **Manda Zand Ervin**, author of “The Ladies’ Secret Society;” founder and president of the Alliance of Iranian Women, an organization that

conveys the voices of Iranian women living under the gender apartheid regime. For details click [here](#).

### “A Better You – Promoting Total Wellness”

Tuesday, March 21, 1:00 p.m., in CA 302



Speaker: **CJ Jackson**, Assistant Athletic Director/ Campus Recreation and Wellness Director, NOVA. For details click [here](#).



NOVA Annandale Campus invites you to attend these free programs on campus.

### “Ginny Battle Story” Film Screening

Wednesday, February 22, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.  
CC Blackbox Theater



Film is about the remarkable journey of Mrs. Virginia T. Battle, who was the first Black woman appointed to work in New England for then U.S. Congressman John F.

Kennedy during the turbulent civil rights era.

### Free “Soul Food Dinner”

Thursday, February 23, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
CE Forum (where LLI has held Forums)

No reservation needed. Food is free. Mix and mingle at this annual event. Free parking.



### Study Travel Program – Registration and Classes

LLI/NOVA’s May 2023 trip to Ireland is approaching fast. It may still be possible for LLI/NOVA members, friends, and family to join us on this exciting trip. This “Jewels of Ireland” trip, provided through AAA/CIE, begins on May 14. Click [here](#) for the trip itinerary. Full trip details and registration information are available on the Study/Travel Program page of LLI’s website [here](#).

Bonnie Hopley has arranged for a class that will be of special interest to members and guests who plan to participate in the trip, but is open to all LLI members. Information about this March 22 class, Irish Culture and Customs, may be found online [here](#).

The Study Travel Committee is busy planning future trips for LLI/NOVA. Contact Committee Chair Rod Dyck ([rd2222@aol.com](mailto:rd2222@aol.com)) or 703-328-1660 with any questions or comments.

## Special Interest Group (SIG) Meetings at a Glance

**KPL = Kings Park Library, 9002 Burke Lake Rd., Burke**

**Bridge – Thursday, February 23, 12:30 – 4:30 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Library and Wednesday, March 8, 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at Mason District Governmental Center.** All levels of player are welcome. For more information, click on [Bridge – LLI NOVA](#). POC Bob Huley, [roberthuley@cox.net](mailto:roberthuley@cox.net)

**Favorite Books – Thursday, March 16, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at KPL, "The Ride of Her Life" by Elizabeth Letts (biography).** POC Lynne Smaldone, [smaldonega@hotmail.com](mailto:smaldonega@hotmail.com)

**Financial Discussion Group – discontinued until new leader is found.**

Please consider volunteering! Contact Derick Malis, [derickmalis@gmail.com](mailto:derickmalis@gmail.com)

**Foodies & Friends – Monday, March 20, 11:30 a.m. –** See article on next page for details.

**Mystery Books – Monday, March 6, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. at KPL, "The 6:20 Man" by David Baldacci.** POC Mary Lu Bednarsky, [mlbednarsky@gmail.com](mailto:mlbednarsky@gmail.com)

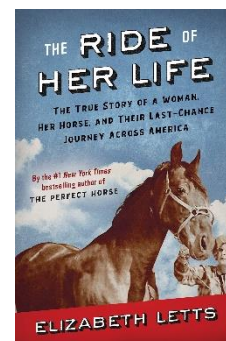
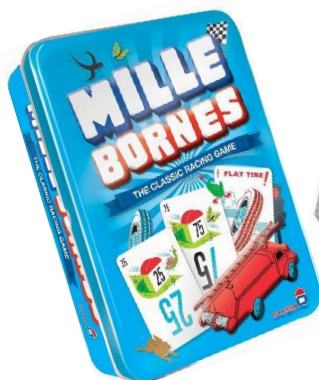
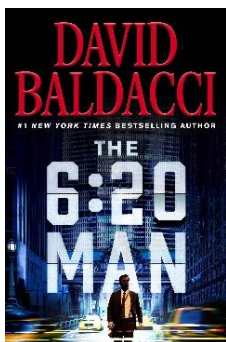
**Photography – Friday, March 17, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at KPL**

New members are always welcome. Cell phone cameras are fine. Normally meets the third Friday of every month. Contact Buck Myers, [hbm@hbmphoto.com](mailto:hbm@hbmphoto.com)

**Tabletop Games – Tuesday, February 28 (Mille Bornes) and Tuesday, March 28 (Bunco). Both meetings from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. at KPL.**

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

**Visual and Performing Arts –** The best deal ever! For \$15.00 (plus a \$4.00 service fee) per seat, LLI members may purchase tickets for selected performances at George Mason University Center for the Arts. (Note that tickets may also be purchased in person at the box office, where no service fee is charged.) Additionally, you may attend a pre-performance discussion 45 minutes prior to the show. The list of performances and information on purchasing tickets is available [here](#).



## Foodies & Friends

Monday, March 20, 11:30 a.m.



**Asian Grill**  
6228 Rolling Rd. Unit 8,  
Springfield

If you like Asian food, you can't go wrong at this popular local restaurant. Asian Grill offers authentic and delicious Chinese and Asian cuisines, and is known for its variety in taste and its high-quality fresh ingredients. The Asian Grill is located on Rolling Rd. in the small strip-mall with the clock tower, next to the post office and across from McDonald's. Separate checks will be provided and parking is easy in the shopping center's parking lot. The restaurant is totally accessible. Check out the menu at: [asiangrillspringfield.com](http://asiangrillspringfield.com). If you haven't joined us before, please consider coming to this gathering. It's a great way to meet with LLI members. RSVP for the luncheon to our host, Arlene Gribben, at [arlenegribb@aol.com](mailto:arlenegribb@aol.com) or 703-896-2255 by Wednesday, March 15.

## Cultural Excursions

The following excursions are offered through Fairfax County Park Authority. Details are available on LLI's website [here](#). Contact Carol Fagnani, Cultural Excursions Committee Chair, if you have questions. Her contact information is available in LLI's online member directory.

- **Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden**  
Wednesday, April 19, 10:15 a.m. – 6:15 p.m., \$106. The garden (in Richmond) will



be bursting with blooming spring flowers. Enjoy a leisurely, guided garden tour. Fee includes coach, entrance, and tour.

- **Mount Cuba and Winterthur**  
Wednesday, May 3, 7:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., \$159. Travel to Delaware to see some of the finest woodland gardens around. Tour Mount Cuba's native plant gardens in the morning and spend the afternoon at Winterthur with a self-guided house tour plus a tram tour of the gorgeous grounds and gardens. Fee includes coach, entrance, and tour.



- **Tudor Place and Dumbarton Oaks**  
Wednesday, May 31, 11:00 a.m. – 5:45 p.m., \$132. Experience the historic gardens of Tudor Place and Dumbarton Oaks in Georgetown. Enjoy an elegant Victorian tea party in the 1867 Dower House, and an informative house tour afterward. Then travel up the road to Dumbarton Oaks and explore the famous gardens. Fee includes coach, entrance, tea, and tour.

