



FROM THE PRESIDENT



How exciting it is to think about a new semester beginning in September! Many of you will probably have difficulty deciding which of our 126 courses—a new record! -- are your

priority. (And yes, please remember you do **HAVE** to prioritize so the computer will know which courses are most important to you.) We all appreciate the hard work of the members of the Curriculum Committee whose efforts produced the wonderful variety and number of opportunities listed in the catalog this fall.

Last season we finished the semester with 1038 members registered—another new record. People keep passing the word that we are a quality program and a good bargain for their time and money. Now we are encouraging another bargain for you to consider: a Neville Public Museum membership. We are working cooperatively with the Neville Museum to promote membership in their organization. We again have contracted for the use of their auditorium for our larger classes, and we currently partner with them for their excellent Museum Dinner Programs. This fall, under the energetic leadership of its new Director, Rolf Johnson, the Museum will be expanding its offerings and presenting new exhibits and programs. And we are making some scheduling adjustments at the Neville to coordinate with their wonderful upcoming Anne Frank exhibit. A museum membership will allow you to

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SAVE THE DATES

**20th ANNIVERSARY YEAR
CELEBRATION DINNER**

(2011 - 2012)

**SEPTEMBER 7, 2011, KICK-OFF
RIVERSIDE BALLROOM**

Social hour at 4:00 PM, dinner at 5:00 PM

NEW ZOO PICNIC

September 28, 2011 at 11:30 AM.
Participation will be limited to only 110 people

IT'S HAPPENING

July 28, 2011, Two Rivers & Manitowoc

**August 3, 2011, Birch Creek Jazz. Fish
Boil and Garden Walk**

**August 24, 2011, Oshkosh Museums and
Fox Valley Tour.**

Watch for the orange registration flyers in
your mail.

VDC TRAINING & PROGRAMS

**August 17 & 18, 2011, Coordinator
Training**

**September 23, 2011, New Member
Welcome**

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**October 7, 2011, is the deadline for
submitting articles for the next issue of
the Newsletter**

**If you would like to receive your future
copies of the Newsletter by email with
photos in full color you can subscribe by
submitting your email address to:
lir@uwgb.edu**

take advantage of that exhibit and others whenever you are there for a course. And there's another possible benefit: membership in the Neville may get you a reduced/or free admission fee at some other museums across the country. One of our members recently went to the Lincoln Museum and found he and his wife had a significantly reduced rate in both the Museum and the Library, thanks to their Neville membership.

We have a "new" venue for some of our courses. We have contracted with First Presbyterian Church to use several of their classrooms. This is a very nice facility at the corner of Howard and Ashland (200 S. Ashland) on Green Bay's West Side. There is a good-sized parking lot and a friendly staff. We will be offering some courses there that don't require audio-visual equipment or technical support.

Registration will be enhanced by a new and improved computer lottery process. The computer will not only randomize your number in the selection order, it will then see to it that you get your highest priority course of the courses that are open when your number comes up. Then the computer will move on—before assigning you any more courses on your list—to the next number in line and assign that person his or her highest available prioritized course, and then proceed down the line to the next person's top pick, and so on. "Down the Line" is not really accurate because this time there are really no last numbers. The computer will go down the randomized membership and then start back UP from the bottom, and it will continue to do the "down/up" until registration is finished. Obviously it is unlikely that anyone will get all of their highest priority courses, but statistically it is likely that more people this year will get more of their high priority courses. And you are strongly encouraged to list and prioritize **TWELVE** courses. Yes, 12! We encourage that many because

the computer needs to be able to continually draw courses from the lists of 1000 members. This new priority process will be much fairer to all the members. Yes, there will still be waiting lists and a list of courses that are open. But "first" choices now will be portioned out among all of us.

We are coming into a very special year – our 20th Anniversary. The 20th Anniversary Committee has been working very hard to plan some special events and courses to celebrate 20 years of success for LIR. Be sure to watch the catalog and the Newsletter for notice of those events.

We are grateful for all the volunteers who keep LIR vibrant and strong--and we encourage everyone to take a volunteer role. We have a Volunteer Development Committee (VDC) that matches people who are interested in volunteering with needs we have within the organization. And if you volunteer to coordinate a course, you don't have to worry about getting into it or having it count as one of your high priority courses. Try it! You'll enjoy yourself, make new friends, and play an important role in helping our organization continue to thrive.

Joyce Dirschl, President

20th ANNIVERSARY YEAR **CELEBRATION**

Betty Brown

A celebration of the 20th anniversary of Learning in Retirement will be inaugurated Wednesday, Sept. 7, with a dinner at the Riverside Ballroom in Green Bay. The program will include remarks by Jan Thornton, "architect" of LIR at UW-Green Bay, a short video, and a presentation by Hayden Groy on "Visioning the Future," theme of the observance.

The dinner is the first of three social events scheduled during the year. It will take place at 5 p.m., with Mike Murphy as master of ceremonies, following a social hour at 4 p.m. featuring harp music by LIR member MaryWerner. Entertainment during the evening will also include the performance of an original LIR song by Mary Eisenreich, also a member, and music by a choral ensemble of LIR members and friends.

Members and guests will be welcomed by Steve Vandenvond of UW-Green Bay. He is associate provost of Outreach and Adult Access, the post held by Jan Thornton at the time of her recent retirement. With the encouragement of Marge Engelmann, who headed the Outreach program at the time, Ms. Thornton established Learning in Retirement on the campus in 1991. Her remarks on "A Vision Realized" and a video prepared by Ed Smith, Barbara Otto and Stu Hoar, "I Remember When It All Began," will recall the early days of the organization.

A catered picnic in the Pine Shelter at the NEW Zoo will be part of the second event, a "zoo happening" planned for Wednesday, Sept. 28, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Because of space limitations, the event will be open to LIR members only. Wrapping up the year will be a pig roast, billed as a "final exam." It is scheduled at Green Isle Park from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on June 5, 2012. Ticket prices and other details will be announced in future newsletters.

The anniversary year will also be recognized in the LIR curriculum. A number of courses that were offered during the first years of the program will be repeated under current leaders during 2011-2012. They will be identified in the course catalogs with the 20th anniversary logo.

Mary Johnson is Chairperson of the 20th Anniversary Committee. "Plan to help us celebrate this important milestone in our history!" she says.



LIR Chorale preparing for a special presentation for the 20th Anniversary Celebration Dinner.

2011 ANNUAL MEETING

Mike Murphy, Vice-President

Actions Taken At The Annual Meeting

The 174 LIR members who attended the Annual Meeting on May 4th approved the 2011-2012 proposed budget and elected the following slate of officers:

President: Joyce Dirschl

Vice President: Mike Murphy

Treasurer: Carol Gagan

Secretary: Gloria Gaie

Members at Large: Jerry Abitz, Nancy McGrew, and Frank Moon

By unanimous vote the membership also approved two amendments to the LIR Bylaws:

Article IX, Section 1 was amended to add the Volunteer Development Committee to the list of Standing Committees. This action was taken to recognize the importance of this committee to the success of the organization and to give its chairperson a seat on the Steering Committee.

Article XIV was amended to allow the Bylaws to be amended at an LIR Special Meeting rather than just at the Annual Meeting. This action was taken to allow the organization to respond more quickly, if necessary, to any future developments. Any

amendments would still be required to be submitted to the membership in writing at least a month before the Special Meeting and would still require a two-thirds vote of approval to pass.

SO, WHAT'S YOUR QUESTION?

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

This new feature article is an open forum for LIR members to pose questions of common interest to the Steering Committee, with answers to be published in the Newsletter. If you have a question of a general nature please send it by email to Joyce Dirschl at jdirschl@att.net or mail to her home address listed in the Directory. Our first Q&A was initiated at our Annual Meeting:

QUESTION: How is LIR affiliated with the UW-Green Bay?

ANSWER: Mona Christensen (LIR Advisor) Learning in Retirement (LIR) is one of several vibrant programs that are housed in the Division of Outreach and Adult Access at UWGB. LIR operates under the same University policies as all other programs in the Division, UWGB and UW-System. LIR has one paid office manager, JoAnn Feeney, who oversees all of the registration, classroom support, customer support and office volunteers. An array of volunteers provide hours of program support, e.g. committee work that includes making programming decisions, budget recommendations, strategic planning involving growth and membership and many more responsibilities.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & NEWS

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE NEWS

Weston Carvenough
Curriculum Committee Co-chair

Travel With Me

Over the last several years Peggy Christensen has been putting Travel With Me together for the Spring semester. Peggy is moving on, so to continue this course I have agreed to put it together for the curriculum committee. If you have traveled in the last five years and have some pictures and experiences to share electronically please contact me, Weston Carvenough at 497-1108 or wcarvenough@new.rr.com. I will work with you to get you into the rotation for presenting your trip. I think that I have two volunteers for this spring but will need two more for a complete course. The presentations are done at the Neville Museum and last approximately two hours. If I do not get any more volunteers for this course it will not be offered. If you have any friends that have traveled and would be willing to share their experiences please send me their names as well.

Neville Museum Parking

It has been brought to the attention of the Curriculum Committee that some of our members have been abusing the parking at the Neville Museum when attending our courses. We have been asked by the museum staff to not park in the back of the museum in the lot designated as staff parking. If our members continue to abuse the parking reserved for the museum staff they will find themselves with a parking ticket on their vehicle when they leave. We are asking you to please obey the sign and not park in the reserved parking lot behind the museum. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

COURSE REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

JoAnn Feeney
LIR Office Manager

1. Catalogs will be mailed on July 15, 2011. All members will receive a catalog.
2. If you previously registered via the internet and gave your email address, you will automatically receive an email prompt that online registration is available. The prompt will take you directly to your record which can be updated if necessary before registering for courses. If your email address has changed since last semester, you would want to contact the office and give us your correct email address to facilitate receiving your prompt.
3. Online registration will be available on August 1, 2011. Keep in mind the courses cannot overlap or the computer will throw out your conflicting course selection. **We encourage you to register online as this will assist in reducing the workload for the office volunteers.**
4. Members are limited to 12 courses. We ask that you prioritize your selections of twelve (12) courses with #1 being the most important choice.
5. If you and your spouse or significant other drive to classes together, place your linked registration forms in the same envelope and they will be processed together. Linking registrations is specifically for those who need to ride together.
6. How the lottery system will work:
 - *The computer will randomly choose each member and assign them their first choice class, if available. If that class is unavailable the computer will go to their 2nd choice class and so on until the system has made multiple passes in efforts to accommodate each member with as many classes as available.

*As courses fill, the computer will automatically assign your next choice to you and place you on a wait list for your selections that have already filled.

*Once the system has completed all passes, printing of confirmations will proceed.

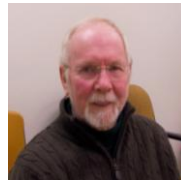
7. Printing of confirmations will occur approximately August 17, 2011.
8. Mailing of confirmations will start on August 22, 2011. You should receive your confirmation prior to September 1, 2011. You will also receive an open course listing at that time. Do not call to ask if your courses have been confirmed.
9. Registrations received after the lottery process date will be processed on a day by day basis.

ATTENDANCE & GROWTH SUBCOMMITTEE

Mike Murphy, Chairman

Waitlists & Empty Seats

In a typical LIR class, semester after semester, about one out of every four registrants is absent. This past spring that statistic was true even for most classes with dozens of people on the waitlist. The average attendance in all classes, with or without a waitlist, was once again about 75%. Many absent members, as always, dutifully excused themselves by contacting the course coordinator in advance—but many, as always, did not, particularly for one-session courses. And coordinators again reported that they frequently had trouble contacting waitlist registrants in time to fill seats vacated by last-minute excused members. In one course this past spring, for example, 53 members were registered for a 50-limit



course in a room that seats 40 comfortably; 27 other members were on the waitlist, but on the day of the class, half the seats in the classroom were empty: only 51% of the registered members showed up for the class. This past spring, the courses with the highest average attendance were special interest courses (Baking, Cooking, French, etc.) with relatively low or tightly-limited course enrollments: 5 of the 6 courses which had 90% or better attendance had course enrollments of 17 or less. Attendance at the large-enrollment courses held at NPM (which seats 132) ranged from 66% to 89% and had an average attendance of 75%--just like all other courses this past semester and other recent semesters.

LIR's Attendance and Growth Subcommittee, which gathered the data above, welcomes your comments and suggestions regarding the above statistics or on any other matters pertaining to attendance and growth. Please mail those comments to the LIR office or email them directly to the chair of the subcommittee, Mike Murphy, at mwmurphy@new.rr.com.

VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (VDC)

Janice McCarthy



Committee members are from left to right: Mike Murphy, Peggy Christensen, Howard Ott, Terry Blaser, Karen Dallman, Judy Charles, Frank Moon, Marge Bader, Barbara Anderson and Janice McCarthy.

Volunteerism & Leadership

At the Annual Meeting in May, the LIR membership approved the establishment of a fifth standing committee, the Volunteer Development Committee (VDC). This approval had its birth in the Strategic Thinking Recommendations that were adopted by your Steering Committee in July 2009 and resulted in an Ad Hoc Committee beginning its work in the early months of 2010.

The Volunteer Development Committee developed a Member Profile Survey and worked diligently this past year placing volunteers in needed positions within LIR. The Communications Committee was especially successful in attracting new members and immediately including them as members of their team. The course coordinator list was updated and expanded with many new names being added to this essential program. The VDC itself was able to attract new members whose work enabled the committee to achieve its objectives.



With this done, the VDC searched for new leadership and was successful. After learning more about the chair's position and its responsibilities, Karen Dallman accepted the position of Chairperson.

With poise and confidence and backed by the support of the committee itself, Karen is enthusiastic about assuming her new role. She has been a member of LIR since 2007, has served as a coordinator and has been a member of the Volunteer Development Committee for a year. Most recently, Karen has been working diligently on improving coordinator training for this Fall. Before she retired, she was a teacher for 34 years.

LIR Members...there are many of you who are willing to volunteer. We will continue to search for places where you might serve. If you have any ideas you'd like to share or want to volunteer, email Karen at kdallman@new.rr.com or call the LIR office at 465-2356.

UWGB SUMMER CAMPS

Mona Christensen. LIR UWGB Advisor

Arts Enrichment for Adults Afternoons, August 1-4, 2011

Everyone is invited to participate in a relatively new program offered through the Division of Outreach and Adult Access. Arts Enrichment for Adults, held at UWGB on August 1-4, from 1-4 p.m. offers adults of any age a chance to explore and focus on the visual arts through sculpture, drawing, painting, mosaics, and photography. The cost is \$129 for the program, 3 hours each day for four afternoons. Each class is taught by experienced artist educators. You will love this program! To register online: <http://www.uwgb.edu/outreach/artsforadults/>

OR call Mona if you have any questions 920-465-2267.

LIR MEMBER NEWS

LIR Member Feedback

“At that first meeting (1991) of LIR, I reluctantly volunteered to co-ordinate a course on “Writing Your Memoirs”. This decision led to a high point which has been learning to know and becoming good friends with members of this fine organization”.

This is a quotation from Leo Yelle that was published in the LIR 10th anniversary booklet.

“Shirley Winnes is an excellent presenter. Her facts and pictures (Gardens of Pacific NW) were supreme. Her ability to speak so intelligently is appreciated – great! More of her.”

“Both presenters were very knowledgeable (Australia for Older People). They knew a lot of incidental, interesting things. I was fascinated.”

IN MEMORIAM

Barb Mohr, Editor

If you know of the death of an LIR member, or past member, please notify the LIR office. This will help to insure that we are aware of the death and can include a notice on our website and in this Newsletter.

Donald Harms, 75, Sobieski. an active LIR member, died March 9, 2011 after a courageous battle with cancer. Don, who retired from Schneider Transport, was a lifelong learner who was active in Kiwanis and the YMCA, enjoyed golfing, oil painting, skiing, and traveling. Don will be deeply missed by his wife Birgit and his daughter Heidi.

Dorothy Havens, 81, died Saturday, April 23, 2011, after a long illness. She was a teacher of English, Spanish and music. She learned quilting in her 70s and enjoyed attending the Learning in Retirement courses through the UWGB. She was an accomplished pianist and long-time organist at St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

Wilhelmina Wagner, 91, passed away on Saturday, June 4, 2011 at Rennes Health Care Center. She was a Bookkeeper at a bank in Chicago for many years. After her retirement she moved to Sobieski for several years before settling in Green Bay.

**IN MEMORY OF JOE ELSON
LIR'S FIRST PRESIDENT**

Barb Mohr & Barbara Otto

Did you know that back in 1990, the goal of establishing a Learning in Retirement program in Green Bay was just a dream in the minds of several senior citizens and Dr. Jan Thornton of the UWGB Office of Outreach and Extension? This founding group, meeting at the Shorewood Golf Course Clubhouse, was headed by Joe Elson, LIR's first president for two 2 year terms from 1991-1994.



"Membership was an important element, so we had to offer interesting subjects to attract people and establish a fee attractive to membership but adequate enough to support the program," Joe noted in his LIR memoir. As current members we can only imagine the amount of planning and discussion which must have gone into finally arriving at class selections and the appropriate fees to charge for classes! Joe noted that "LIR's first year ended with "a positive cash balance of under \$100!"

Obtaining additional financial support was also crucial and Joe said that committees came forward with ideas such as corporate memberships, help from radio stations and newspaper articles telling about the mission to bring a Learning in Retirement program to Green Bay.

Joe, a Marinette native, joined LIR after retiring in 1990 as Director of Administration and Finance for the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District. Prior to that, Joe was Business Manager for the Brown Deer School District in Milwaukee.

His professional work experiences prepared him well for the important leadership role he shared with LIR. His mentorship was instrumental in creating the thriving LIR organization which we all enjoy today. Membership has grown from an initial 200 to over 1200 this past year. LIR is grateful to Joe, who died recently, for his enormous contribution to our program!

"FAMILIAR FACES"

BEV SMITH

Barbara Otto, Communications Committee

Born Beverly Weaver in Elkhart, Indiana in the late 30s, the multi-talented woman we



know as Bev Smith has been a regularly scheduled presenter of LIR classes for many years. Her life has not been without a few bumps. She relates: "My life has been a series of successes and setbacks." Third in her large graduating class, she had placed all of her hopes on winning a scholarship to the Pasadena Playhouse where she could pursue a career as an actress. With no parental encouragement, she had been working diligently since the age of 12 and saving her money which she intended to use for her education in drama. That scholarship didn't materialize, so she applied and was hired at an Elkhart manufacturing company utilizing her clerical ability. When she read for a part at the South Bend Civic Theater she met her future husband, Stu Smith who she considered "stuckup" (as he considered her also!) Bev was awarded a scholarship to Indiana University where she began her college studies which culminated years later in her graduation from Goshen College.

Meanwhile she heard of an acting company, the Bishop's Company which specialized in inspirational drama and traveled to 30 states doing as many as 300 performances a year. This paid well enough for her to live modestly and continue saving her money so she might realize her career goal of being an actress. After becoming exhausted with the travel and demands of so many performances in a short period of time she reluctantly returned home to Elkhart where she re-encountered Stu and after a whirlwind courtship of 12 days, became engaged to be married. After a 10 month engagement, they married and remain married to this day 50 years later. The young couple became the parents of two daughters and subsequently moved to Green Bay. Bev taught school during these years. At the age of 50, she was inspired by the example of Grandma Moses, who found a late-in-life rebirth as an artist, Bev finally began to realize her dream of becoming an actress. She came to excel in re-enacting strong women in history which she has done collaborating with friends Judy Crain and Cheryl Murphy in LIR classes. Most recently, in March, in spite of suffering from a painful kidney stone, she performed as Margaret Mitchell, the author of "Gone With the Wind" at the Art Garage. Future plans are two LIR classes with Judy Crain: "Women Worth Repeating" in September and "Women Worth Knowing" in October.

Bev and Stu, a similarly talented actor, started theater companies in the Green Bay area. They began the Chancel Players at Union Congregational Church, and the Evergreen Players where they acted in the very popular "Christmas Carol" every year. In late June they were busy with the Heritage Players acting in "Civil War Blues." She and Stu have two grandchildren who live in the area. In addition to finding a second life as an actress, Bev resumed an

interest in the violin which had lain unused since childhood and now plays with other similarly talented women. With much enthusiasm she says "I am refired, not just retired and my life is still unfolding - I can't wait to see what happens next!"

NEW LIR OFF-CAMPUS CLASSROOMS

Robert Fass, Curriculum Committee Chairperson,

The new classrooms will be at First Presbyterian Church, 200 South Ashland Avenue. We have a contract for the 2011-2012 school year.

We will have both regular and handicapped parking available. The south entrance to the main parking area will be from School Place Avenue. The north entrance from Howard Street is to an alley behind the church. There is handicapped parking adjacent to the alley, with an entrance door to the church nearby, and an elevator just inside this door. The normal entrance will be at the front of the church on Ashland Avenue, and it will be the second entrance to the north. There is an elevator just inside this entrance. There will be signs at both entrances.

The person to contact at the church is Linda Cigler. Linda has requested that we only bring in bottled water to the classrooms since most of the rooms are carpeted and are very clean.

The rooms we have under contract are the Memorial, Pre-K, Youth, Choir, classroom 203 and Banner Hall. They also have an excellent kitchen area next to Banner Hall. The courses which will be at the church are: Creative Writing For Pleasure, Mah Jong. Memoirs, Euchre, Continuing Issues, Bridge-Review Of Basics, Introduction To Spanish, Books and You and Games.

PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE!
IT SAVES TIME AND MONEY

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