



UPCOMING EVENTS – SAVE THE DATE!

- March 2** **Submission deadline for March newsletter articles**

- April 25** **Annual Meeting : Brunch Buffet at Stadium View**
Chairs will be available for those wishing to attend the meeting only.
More information will be made available at a later date.

- June 5** **20th Anniversary Pig Roast and “Final Exam”**



FROM THE PRESIDENT by Joyce Dirschl

Hi Everyone ---

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

This semester we have over 100 courses to choose from in a wide variety of topics including both new and repeat offerings. We have also added a new classroom venue: the Kroc Center on Lime Kiln Road. LIR is certainly spreading out geographically -- from the University campus on the northeast edge of town, to the Neville Museum downtown, to First Presbyterian on the near west side, and now to the Kroc Center on the southeast side.

We have been very fortunate that these facilities have become available as we needed them.

As we begin a new semester, I'd like to express my personal thanks to all the people who make LIR happen, including particularly the Chairs of all the Committees:

- Bob Fass and Kelly Dadam, Curriculum
- Carol Gagan, Finance
- Judy Charles, Social
- Phil Andreas, Communication
- Karen Dallman, Volunteer Development

These chairpersons and their committee members, along with the Officers and the Members-at-Large who work with Mona Christiansen (our UWGB advisor) and Joann Feeney (our Office Manager), are vital to the continued success of our organization. I am grateful to them and to all the presenters who devote their time, energy, knowledge and talents to presenting programs that educate and stimulate us. In addition to our peers who present courses, we are very fortunate to have a University setting where we have the benefit of many of the professors and the use of University space. We also benefit from a large cadre of volunteer Course Coordinators who assure that the courses run smoothly by checking attendees in and procuring copy material and media equipment that presenters need for their programs.

Many people have commented on our attractive course catalog for this semester. The credit for all the new improvements goes to a "behind the scenes" worker in the office of Adult Learning. Thank you, Mark!

Thanks to all the above people, our organization continues to grow--and continues to need new Course Coordinators, new course presenters, and new committee members. If you haven't yet volunteered to help us out in whatever way you can, please consider doing so now. It's a New Year--a great time for new volunteers to get involved and help our organization thrive.

Joyce Dirschl, LIR President

2012 LIR ELECTIONS

Won't you consider running for OR nominating someone for a one-year term on the LIR Steering Committee? Yes, it is work....but it's also contributing to a growing, exciting organization that offers lifelong learning and social connections not found anywhere else. Terms begin on July 1, 2012 and include the following positions:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- 3 Members-at-Large

Job descriptions for these positions follow. Anyone interested should contact a member of the Nominating Team (listed below) no later than February 20. The Nominating Team can answer any questions you have concerning the offices, duties and time commitments. Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting, April 25, 2012 (Wednesday).

Consider this your opportunity to serve AND to get to know other LIR members!

Nominating Team:

- Darlene Hallet 468-1818 darhal@sbcglobal.net
- Nellie De Baker 845-5033 n9691@yahoo.com
- Barb Beaver 983-6573 bjbeaver@gbnetx.com
- Adolph Kannewurf 406-0308 adlpnnwrf@aol.com
- Jean Watson 499-5779 jeanbean1@sbcglobal.net

JOB DESCRIPTIONS – 2012 ELECTIONS

The **PRESIDENT** serves as the chief executive of the organization and is responsible for directing the daily operations of the LIR office staff. He/she heads the LIR Steering Committee and the LIR Executive Committee. He/she shall perform the duties prescribed by the *LIR Bylaws* and the *LIR Policies and Procedures*. The President shall hold a term of one (1) year and shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive one (1) year terms.

Duties include but are not limited to:

1. Presides over Steering Committee meetings held on the 4th Monday of the month.
2. Serves as an ex-officio member of all standing committees (except the Nominating Committee.)
3. Meets monthly with the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay LIR liaison.
4. Calls special meetings of the Steering Committee as necessary.
5. Presides at all membership meetings such as the Fall Kickoff, Holiday Social and the LIR Annual Meeting.
6. Presents an annual state of LIR report at the Annual Meeting.
7. Serves as LIR's representative to the Wisconsin Association for Lifelong Learning (WALL).

Average time commitment per month: 25-30 hours

The **VICE-PRESIDENT** assumes the duties of the President in his/her absence and assumes the Presidency if a vacancy in that office occurs. The Vice-President works in cooperation with the President and is a member of the LIR Steering Committee and the LIR Executive Committee. He/she shall perform the duties prescribed by the *LIR Bylaws* and the *LIR Policies and Procedures*. The Vice-President shall hold a term of one (1) year and shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive one (1) year terms.

Duties include but are not limited to:

1. Attends Steering Committee meetings on the 4th Monday of the month.
2. Serves as the organization's representative to the Elderhostel Institute Network.
3. Chairs the Attendance and Growth Ad Hoc Committee.
4. Meets monthly with the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay LIR liaison.
5. Attends the Annual Meeting and the Fall Kickoff.

Average time commitment per month: 15 hours

The **TREASURER** serves as chair of the Finance Committee and is responsible for maintaining accurate financial records. He/she is a member of the LIR Steering Committee and the LIR Executive Committee. He/she shall perform the duties prescribed by the *LIR Bylaws* and the *LIR Policies and Procedures*. The Treasurer shall hold a term of one (1) year and shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive one (1) year terms.

Duties include but are not limited to:

1. Attends Steering Committee meetings on the 4th Monday of the month.
2. Presides at Finance meetings held the 3rd Monday of the month.
3. Prepares monthly projections of revenues and expenses for presentation to the Finance Committee and the Steering Committee at their regular monthly meetings.
4. Prepares a summary report of all revenues, expenses and assets at the end of the fiscal year.
5. Prepares, with the Finance Committee, an annual budget that is brought to the Steering Committee for its recommendation, and approved at the Annual Meeting by the membership.

Average time commitment per month: 20 hours

The **SECRETARY** must be an LIR member in good standing. He/she is a member of the LIR Steering Committee and the LIR Executive Committee. He/she shall perform the duties prescribed by the *LIR Bylaws* and the *LIR Policies and Procedures*. The Secretary shall hold a term of one (1) year and shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive one (1) year terms.

Duties include but are not limited to:

1. Attends Steering Committee meetings on the 4th Monday of the month.
2. Files the minutes of Steering Committee meetings in the LIR office.
3. Posts Steering Committee minutes on the LIR website Bulletin Board.
4. Monitors the LIR membership list and member profiles.
5. Keeps *Bylaws* and *Policies and Procedures* available for use during Steering Committee meetings.
6. Attends and keeps minutes of the Annual Membership meeting.
7. Attends the Fall Kickoff.
8. Works with the Steering Committee in carrying out its responsibilities.

Average time commitment per month: 10 hours

A **MEMBER-AT-LARGE** must be an LIR member in good standing. He/she performs the duties as prescribed by the *LIR Policies and Procedures*. A member at large shall hold a term of one (1) year and shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive one (1) year terms.

Duties include but are not limited to:

1. Attends Steering Committee meetings on the 4th Monday of the month.
2. Accepts responsibility for projects as requested by the President.
(One member-at-large is responsible for coordinating LIR Listening Sessions.)
3. Attends the Fall Kickoff and the Annual Membership meeting.
4. Works with the Steering Committee in carrying out its responsibilities.

Average time commitment per month: 10 hours

VOLUNTEER COMMENTS

Submitted by Karen Dallman and Weston Carvenough

“Reasons I like to be a coordinator for LIR:

1. I am assured of (registration in) the classes I coordinate.
2. LIR has great presenters that I enjoy working with. Also they are there for us because they want to be.
3. I appreciate and utilize the services and offerings LIR provides and I like giving back by volunteering.” (Peg)

“After I retired, I signed up for LIR classes including ‘Recreational Music Making,’ a class for students with little-to-no piano experience. I had always wanted to learn to play the piano. Now was my chance. I loved the class and continue to take piano lessons to this day. I volunteer to coordinate ‘Recreational Music Making’ as a way to say ‘thank you’ to LIR and Mary Vandersteen, the instructor.” (Jane)

“I volunteer for LIR because I gain so much from the classes that I want to ‘give back’ a little. The classes have helped me with my gardens and furthered my enjoyment of watercolor too. I’ve met so many nice people!” (Liz)

“I volunteer because I enjoy learning and want to see LIR’s great programs there for me for years to come. I can only volunteer for small projects now but hope to get more involved later.” (Janice)

“When I first started going to LIR, I thought it was such a great program that I wanted to do my share so the program would continue to be successful.” (Janette)

“I volunteer because I want these classes to continue. If we don’t have people coordinating the classes, they will have to be dropped. That would be a shame.” (Penny)

“LIR gives me the opportunity to continue learning and meeting people and I want to help in any way that I can as a way of saying thank you for this wonderful program!” (Anonymous)

LIR COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT:

Volunteer Development Committee (VDC), by Karen Dallman, VDC Committee Chair

The newest LIR committee is the Volunteer Development Committee (VDC) which is responsible for identifying, recruiting, and training volunteers for participation in LIR programs and activities.

One of our biggest tasks is to match coordinators to classes each semester, and conduct follow-up training sessions for those coordinators. Another important job is staffing the office with volunteers. We presently are recruiting members for data entry, answering the telephone, and working on special projects.

Some of our other jobs include holding a New Member Welcome in September, developing a volunteer database from the profile we ask you to fill out with your registration, and tracking yearly volunteer numbers and trends.

We are always looking for interested members who want to give back to LIR through volunteering. We have a variety of opportunities for you and would love to have you join us! If interested, please contact Karen Dallman [kdallman@new.rr.com].

VISIONING THE FUTURE OF LIR by Mike Murphy, Vice-President

As part of LIR's 20th Anniversary Celebration, an ad hoc committee chaired by Hayden Groy generated a variety of thoughtful ideas for LIR to consider in its planning for the future. A full list of the committee's ideas is available in the LIR Office. Here's a sample of them:

- For programming purposes, continue to develop partnerships with other organizations, including not just the Neville Museum and Heritage Hill but other groups and entities as well, including other LIRs within easy driving distance so that presenters could be shared.
- Experiment with different time slots for courses, such as 8:30 to 10:30 and 11:00 to 1:00 and 1:30 to 3:30, to maximize use of classrooms and alleviate on-campus parking issues in prime time.
- Experiment with some "intensive format" multi-session courses, with all sessions being offered during the same week rather than spread out over multiple weeks.
- On an experimental basis, offer a few courses during the summer.
- Continue to encourage presenters to offer "interactive" courses involving extensive class discussion and/or hands-on participation.
- Consider changes in the dues structure, such as the option of semester memberships (to accommodate "snowbirds") and/or a lower annual dues payment coupled with a per-session class fee (to alleviate the "no show" problem created when members fail to show up for courses in which they are registered.)
- "If it ain't broke, don't fix it": keep the focus on volunteer peer learning that is intellectual, enjoyable, and affordable.

The Steering Committee will be discussing the committee's full report at an upcoming meeting.

A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO LEARNING

by Phil Andreas, Communications Committee Chair

Many members have already experienced LIR courses that incorporate DVD video presentations of **The Great Courses**. Many members have also attended classes that were videotaped by LIR volunteers at the Neville Public Museum from 2009 to 2011. What many members don't know is that over 50 of these course videos are in the LIR library in the LIR office and may be checked out for private viewing. While the majority of videos are in DVD format there are a few that are in VHS or CD format. The titles and contents of all the videos may be viewed by going to the LIR website at <http://www.uwgb.edu/lir> and selecting **Lending Library** on the left side of the page. Before borrowing one of these videos, call the LIR office at (920) 465-2356 to determine if it is presently available and arrange a date and time to pick it up. Videos must be picked up at the LIR office in room 301 in the Environmental Science Building on the UWGB campus. Only one video may be taken out at a time and must be returned within thirty days.

To learn more about **The Great Courses** series, go to the www.thegreatcourses.com website and browse the catalog for the courses listed in the LIR Lending Library. The course sessions are all 30 minutes long and each DVD disk has six sessions, or three hours of lectures, with illustrations, charts and diagrams that make it very easy to understand the concepts being presented. Most courses also include a course guidebook with a course outline and bibliography.

IT'S HAPPENING TRIPS

A new policy approved at the August steering committee meeting is as follows:

All "It's Happening" trips are open to LIR members first and then, 2 weeks prior to trip deadline if room is still available, nonmembers can sign up at an additional cost of \$15 over and above the member's fee.

PULLIAM POWER PLANT TOUR

One feedback comment for the recent Pulliam Power Plant tour asked about relative costs of generating electricity in Wisconsin and nearby states. Kevin Hujet, Technical Services Supervisor at the Pulliam Power Plant looked up this information for us at the U.S. Energy Information Administration website. If you would like a copy of this table send an e-mail to edsmith000@sbcglobal.net.

LIR LAUNCHES NEW NEWSLETTER NAME CAMPAIGN

By Barb Mohr, Communications Committee

“A name, a name, what’s in a name?” asked William Shakespeare. Well, your LIR Communications Committee believes there truly is “something” in a name. Therefore, we’ve decided that after twenty years of being known as simply “The LIR Newsletter,” this veritable font of information should head into the future with a fresh new name.

Where better to seek ideas than from our creative members? Please submit “new name” entries either in writing to the LIR office or online to lir@uwgb.edu before March 31. All entries will be reviewed and a final selection will be made by our Communications Committee members. In case of duplicate entries, the earliest submission will be declared the winner.

The new name will be announced at the LIR Annual Meeting on April 25. The lucky winner will receive this season’s “must-have” fashion statement for every LIR member: LIR’s 20th Anniversary commemorative tote bag.

BUT WAIT! THAT’S NOT ALL! If you win, you will also have the pleasure of seeing your imaginative creation displayed on the LIR Newsletter masthead far into the future!

THE LONG-AWAITED DRAPES IN ROSE HALL 220 & 230 CLASSROOMS

by Mona Christensen, UWGB Advisor to LIR

After many years, many meetings, and much discussion regarding reducing the glare on projection screens, the Steering Committee decided to replace the old drapes in the UWGB Rose Hall 220/230 classrooms. To be prudent, it was decided to take this project in phases.

In early September, sheers were purchased and installed by a local company. We knew that if we needed drapery liners on specific windows, we could add those at a later date. After member feedback and discussion at November’s Steering Committee meeting, it was decided that we would add blackout liners for each room’s east and/or west windows. Once the estimates come in, we should have the liners installed sometime in February.

In addition to this “anti-glare campaign,” the University has changed the lighting so that the front row of lights can be turned off independently from the other lights in the room. Together, we are working to create a suitable environment for viewing PowerPoint presentations and films without the full expense of heavy blackout liners or expensive motorized shades. Thanks so much for your feedback! We are working hard to keep costs down and increase your viewing pleasure.

FAMILIAR FACES: MARY EISENREICH by Barbara Otto



If one word could be used to describe LIR's multi-talented Mary Eisenreich it could well be "effervescent." Her infectious enthusiasm has allowed her to share her many musical gifts with so many of us who have been fortunate enough to come in contact with her.

Mary was born and raised in Seymour, the oldest of 6 children. At an early age she demonstrated that her talents lay in music. "Mary is flighty," her teachers often said, probably because she was ADHD before that diagnosis became common. Meanwhile, they observed her natural ear and sense of rhythm. Parents and teachers predicted a career in the music field. The age (1960's) dictated that becoming a music teacher rather than a stage and screen star lay in her future. She pursued a triple degree (instrumental, vocal and general) at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and became certified to teach K-12. After receiving and accepting an offer of employment, she taught for one year before taking off for the University of Northern Colorado with her U-Haul packed with all her possessions. There, in 1971, she received her Master's and Doctorate degrees in music-related subjects and worked as a dormitory director until 1977 when she returned to her home town of Seymour. Initially she taught privately - something she continues to do to this day - but then applied for and took a position at Parkview Middle School where she remained for 29 years before her recent retirement. A plaque placed outside the "Mary Eisenreich Music Room" is there for all to see. For 21 of those 29 years she acted as the heart and soul of the high school musicals she directed.

St Norbert's Summer Music Theater under Dudley Birder benefited from Mary's talents as she acted in plays such as "Hello Dolly" and "Oklahoma" off and on for 25 years. A role in "Nonsense" seemed tailor-made for Mary as the Mother Superior. She has also acted with the Heritage Players. She has played one instrument or another specializing in the single reed instruments with the Allouez Village Band of which she is a board member. The Civic Symphony also benefits from her contribution.

A bout with cancer a year ago and now a recent painful knee injury required her to move from her home in Ashwaubenon to an apartment in DePere. She is quite active and visible in the

community. She belongs to the Neville Museum, the Brown County Historical Society Board, and the Ashwaubenon Historical Society. At Christmas Mary has been seen performing at historic Hazelwood. A member of Beautiful Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church, she plays the keyboard for services.

At 65 years old and being somewhat of a “character,” she sports 5 tattoos of which she is most proud! Marilyn Monroe is her idol according to Mary, and this is evidenced by various pictures adorning the walls of her apartment. Her bucket list includes writing a musical based on *Roast Beef Medium* by Edna Ferber. Having played golf prior to her knee injury she now plans to take up canning - a refusal to slow down and act “old.”

LIR members may have become familiar with Mary as she has collaborated with local actor Stu Smith in a class last semester. Some of us will be fortunate to see her perform in the spring semester’s class “Musical Memories of World War II.” She refers to LIR as “the cat’s meow!”

LIR HOLIDAY SOCIAL



The LIR 20th Anniversary Chorale, led by Betty Brown, performed at the annual Holiday Dinner on December 7th. They also performed at some of our local retirement homes.

NEWS FROM THE NEVILLE

Hungry for food and entertainment? Join the **Neville's Dinner Program!** Each Thursday night event begins with dinner from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m., followed by an interesting and informative program from 6:15 – 7:15 p.m. Programs for 2012 are:

February 9: Our Port...The Port of Green Bay has served as an economic engine for northeastern Wisconsin for more than 100 years, evolving from exporting forest products to exporting agricultural products to importing raw materials for manufacturing. Learn about the opportunities and challenges facing our port.

March 15: Irish Legacy...Join award winning Irish poet Kathy Mallon and harpist Cheryl Murphy as they present a multi-faceted evening of poetry, harp music and Irish images which will transport you to the Emerald Isle.

April 12: Play Ball...Joyce Waterman made a BIG difference. Learn about this Kenosha native and the All American Girls Professional League that ran from 1943-1954. Presented by Bob Kahn. *Book signing!*

- Registration is required and is by mail only, dropped off or mailed to the Neville Public Museum.
- Check-in is at the door the night of the event. No tickets or confirmation are sent.
- No refunds will be given.

Cost is \$17.50 for Neville and LIR members and \$22 for non-members. Become a member and save! Space is limited so register early! Call 448-7840.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN FOOD PANTRY by Stephanie Fahringer, Food Pantry Chairperson

Some LIR classes meet at the First Presbyterian Church, and LIR members have inquired if they can help the food pantry there. We serve approximately 135 to 150 families twice a month who need non-perishable food, personal care items, and diapers. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated, made out to First Presbyterian Church Pantry. Thank you!

NEWS YOU CAN USE

We wanted all of you to know the presenter for course #53, "The Battle for Wisconsin..." has decided to cancel the course. If you are interested in adding any other courses please refer to the Open Course Listing that was included with your confirmation materials sent in the last two weeks. If you are interested, contact the LIR Office at 920-465-2356 or email lir@uwgb.edu.

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year! We will see you in January!

LIR Office Staff

IN MEMORIAM

Edna Walter Damkoehler died Oct. 9, 2011. In addition to Learning In Retirement, her interests included philanthropic work, singing in church, gardening and art.



Ray E. Liebl, 93, Luxemburg, died Oct. 22, 2011. He was an active member of and volunteer in many organizations, and he was a facilitator for the creative writing course in the Learning In Retirement Program.

The following is a comment by James Sucha, son of Bernice Sucha, an LIR member who passed away in September, 2011:

"Mom loved LIR and loved learning in late life with painting, games classes and others she would take through LIR. It was hard for her in her later years to get up in the morning with her health issues, but she met some wonderful people through LIR and became friends with many. Before LIR, she was at UWGB with me (I was going for my B.S.) getting her certification requirements while being a licensed substitute teacher. We had classes in Theatre Hall next to each other. Thank you to LIR for her being able to learn in retirement, even though she retired from teaching when she turned 80. It was a terrific program for her to belong to in her final years, and she loved every minute of it."

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.

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