

Volume 27 No. 1

March



The Newsletter of Learning in Retirement

UNIVERSITY OF
WISCONSIN
GREEN BAY

Matters



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, By Frank Moon

It feels like Spring has sprung and LIR is at full speed. It is a full spring semester. Thanks to all the volunteers and, of course, to the LIR Office staff at UW-GB that make it possible for us to offer quality courses to about 1000 members each semester.



Every spring is an election year for LIR. Three years ago LIR voted to adopt on-line voting for its members. With the annual meeting set for May 4, 2016, April will be a very busy time. In early April you will receive an e-mail link that will allow you to vote for the slate of officers and board members. In addition you will be asked to vote on a By-laws amendment that would change our name from "UW-GB Institute for Learning in Retirement" to "Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay". Life Long Learning is the name used by more and more similar programs. The Communications Committee also believes that this change will help tell the story of our program and help in recruiting members who may not be fully retired and are interested in learning.

Former LIR President and long-time member and volunteer Janice McCarthy recently said, "I am whole-heartedly for the change. It will eliminate the word "retirement" which makes many, especially the young, think of us as spending our time in rocking chairs! Lifelong Learning refers to older learners as part of a continuum which it certainly is." Thank you to Jan and to the others who have e-mailed support for the name change.

A member comment and listing session is scheduled for March 28, 2016 in UWGB's Library (Cofrin Library) room CL125 starting at 8:00 a.m. The monthly Board of Directors meeting will immediately follow the comment session.

At the September 2015 board meeting the LIR Board of Directors approved continued... page 3.

25 years
of Learning
1991-2016

Save the date
Annual Meeting/Spring Fling
May 4, 2016
Tundra Lodge



Inside this issue:

President's Message	1 and 3
LIR News	2 and 3
Committee Reports	3, 4, and 5
Guest Pass	4
Nominations	5 and 6
Opinions	7
"We are LIR"	8

Classes can become community activities by Mary Cook

What happens after you have learned that interesting new skill in an LIR class? How do you use and improve it? Last fall's Mah Jongg class is one example of what can follow. The Mah Jongg students were so interested and eager to continue that they formed a group and searched for a place to play on a regular basis. The ADRC was most happy to accommodate and they now meet there every Monday morning. The group has even grown as other players noticed it on the ADRC calendar and joined in. Thanks to LIR presenter, Jeanne Schaffer, who not only taught the class, but also has been there on Mondays to "coach" the novice players, Mah Jongg is alive and growing in Green Bay.

THE EARLY CHRISTIANITY SERIES UPDATE by Pro. Ben Cruz-Uribe

Two years ago during the Spring Semester of 2014 I presented a course titled: **THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE RISE OF EARLY CHRISTIANITY**. At the end of the second lecture, I asked the attendees to please add to their comments as to whether they would like for me to present a second class on this subject. The response was a rather overwhelming (to me) yes and a year later in April of 2015, I gave the second part of what has since turned into a series of classes. In January of 2016, when I gave Part 5, I received a lot of questions and requests about the Early Christianity series as I now call these courses. Below, I will try to answer the most common questions that were asked.

Question 1: What parts of the series currently exist?

Answer 1: There are five distinct parts to the series that have been presented over the past two years. They are:

- The Role of Women in the Rise of Early Christianity
- Lost Christianities; Orthodoxies vs. Heresies
- The Canonical Gospels: Translation Facts and Issues
- Judas Iscariot and His Gospel
- The Lost Gospel of Peter

Question 2: Are there any new classes that are being planned?

Answer 2: There are, at this point in time, four additional parts or classes in various stages of completion.

- The Gospel of Thomas: The Fifth Gospel
- The Different Gospel of John: Conflation Facts and Issues
- The Gospels of Mark, Matthew, and Luke: The Synoptic Problem
- Mary Magdalene and Her Gospels

Question 3: Are any of the first five classes going to be repeated during future semesters?

Answer 3: It is my intent to offer all nine parts of the series during a semester after I retire from my current UWGB teaching position. Until then, I plan to offer to LIR selected classes each semester. For example, THE CANONICAL GOSPEL class will be offered this 2016 Spring and again in the Fall of 2016 as well. If there is a waiting list in the Fall of 2016, the class will be offered again in the Spring or Fall of 2017. It is my intent to offer the Gospel of Thomas in January of 2017.

Continued page 3.

Early Christians series continued:

Question 4: How much time does each class require in terms of research and preparation?

Answer 4: This question is hard to answer since research time especially does not neatly divide up between classes. But I have told individuals that I started intense study, reading, and thinking about 13 years ago. My source library is close to 100 books.

Question 5: Why do I put so much effort and time into these classes? After all, every presenter is a volunteer and the classes are freely given.

Answer 5: I love the subject matter behind every course that I give. When presenting, I can feel the enjoyment that the participants are having. At the end of each lecture, the responses of the participants makes the entire enterprise worthwhile.

Question 6: Will I be presenting classes on different subjects in the future?

Answer 6: **Of course!!!** This Fall I will be presenting for the fourth time the class called: **THE HISTORY OF THE U.S. ELECTORAL COLLEGE**. The last time that I presented this course (four years ago for the 2012 election) the participants asked that I do again. And this will be a course that I will give every four years whenever there is a presidential election.

President's message continued—

submitting the name change to membership for a vote. Please support your LIR Board by voting yes to this By-Law change (name change).

As we celebrate our 25th year as a program of UW-Green Bay I would like to welcome Mike Herrity as our advisor. Mike comes with a long and successful history at UW-Green Bay, serving as Registrar and then as Academic Advisor for both traditional and Adult Degree students. Welcome Mike to the LIR team.

Yes it is hard to believe but we are celebrating our silver anniversary. Seems like yesterday we were preparing for our 20 year anniversary with the printing of our 20 year anniversary bags.



Committee Reports

Volunteer Development Committee by Wes Cavanaugh

It gives me great pleasure to announce that **Janice Rickert** has stepped up and agreed to be the new chair for the Volunteer Development Committee. Jan will officially become the chair as July 1 but she will be responsible for finding and assigning the coordinators for the fall catalogue. So if you are interested in becoming a coordinator for fall please contact Jan so that you are in her list of possible coordinators before she starts assigning courses.

Jan has a lot of experience in Learning in Retirement. She has been the board secretary, served on the curriculum committee and the VDC. Most important is the fact that she has served as a coordinator for multiple courses during her time in LIR.

The VDC held the spring coordinator training in mid-December and the "New Member Welcome" in January. There were about 15 eager new members that attended the "New Member Welcome". They had many questions and really enjoyed learning how LIR works internally. It has been determined that we will hold the "New Member Welcome" only in the fall from now on so if you do join in January you will be welcome to attend the next fall "New Member Welcome" gathering.

Committee reports continued

VDC continued:

The Curriculum Chair and I have agreed to try something new for fall. There will only be one coordinator assigned to each course. If a coordinator is in a venue that requires two coordinators it will be up to the coordinator to choose someone to assist. That way the assigned coordinator is responsible for contacting the presenter and finding out his/her needs for the class. The assigned coordinator is also responsible for all paper work for the class.

Jan Rickert can be reached jrickert@yahoo.com or at 863-7009. If you plan on coordinating a class please put Jan's e-mail address in your e-mail address book so her e-mails don't go to junk mail. **Thank you Jan for saying yes!**

Social Committee by Arlene Molzahn

We are hoping everyone will come to celebrate the ***Twenty-fifth Anniversary*** of LIR at the Annual Meeting /Spring Fling. The Annual Meeting/Spring Fling will be held at the Tundra Lodge, 865 Lombardi Avenue on May 4, 2016.

Doors will open for a social hour at 11:00 a.m. There will be a display of LIR members' work.

The menu will be two types of soup and three different sandwich selections, coffee and dessert.

Ashwauben High School Swing Choir will entertain us with songs from Rogers and Hammerstein's Oklahoma.

You do not need to attend the social to attend the annual meeting. Details will be send at a later time.



Communications Committee by Sherry Moon

Do you have a friend who is not quite sure about what LIR has to offer—Why not take your friend to a class. LIR guess passes are available for this purpose. Members can take a friend with them to any class that does not have a waitlist on a one time basis using the guest pass. The member should call the class coordinator to inform him or her of the guest's attendance. Where does a member find a guest pass—look on the LIR web site under forms and print one off. It looks like this.

Learning In Retirement *Guest Pass*

Take the opportunity to help a friend attend one class in a course of their interest! Let your guest select a course from the current catalog and call or send an e-mail to the coordinator listed in the front of the course catalog. If there is an opening, and there are no course fees for special course materials, the guest can give the Guest Pass to the coordinator at the start of that class.

Guest Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ E-Mail: _____

☐ Please add my name to the mailing list

How did you hear about this session?

☐ Host LIR Member: _____ ☐ Newspaper/Media ☐ LIR Website

Course Class: _____ Date of Class: _____

Communications continued:

LIR “Class Pride” Opportunities by Barb Beaver

Are you an LIR member who is proud of something you have created in an LIR class? If so now is your chance to share what you created with other LIR members at the Spring Fling “Class Pride” Exhibit (formerly Show & Tell and renamed by former LIR member Dawn Sisel).

At the LIR, May 4, Annual Meeting—Spring Fling, the Communication Committee would like to display an exhibit of what has been created during 2015 - 2016. This is the third year for this exhibit and it just gets bigger and better.

The LIR office will be sending a request to members who have been in creative courses asking if they would like to exhibit their creations, accompanied by a short written explanation about the course and their experience. Please contact Barb Beaver from the Communications Committee at bjbeaver@gbnetx.com if you have treasures to share from 2015 - 2016 courses that you will share with LIR members at our May 4, Annual Meeting.



The Communications Committee is aiming to organize an even more extensive Arts and Crafts exhibit. The larger exhibit will include a display of the many works of art that have been created over time for a stand alone show to be open for LIR members and the public. Please keep any treasures you think would be suitable available for “The Really Big Show”.

We welcome all works of creative endeavor from photographs to birdhouses to tatting etc. even poetry and memoirs.

Financial Committee by John Arneth

The financial status of LIR is on track to meet the budget as designed a year ago. We expect to use about \$3000.00 of our reserves. We are also in the process of planning for the next fiscal year and beyond. We have some concerns for the upcoming year that will need to be satisfied, some of which are a raise in parking fees, payment to the University for the LIR advisor (previously part of a grant), additional office help, and increased venue costs. Your finance committee is working to minimize the impact to our membership and to keep us a viable organization.

Nominations for 2016-2017

NANCY MCGREW – Candidate for President



Nancy has been an active LIR member for the past eight years. She has served on the Social Committee, 2010 Nominations committee, Member-at-large on the Steering Committee as well as being a coordinator and presenter for LIR courses. Presently she is Vice President of the Board of Directors, chair of the Attendance and Growth Committee, Chair of the Policy and Procedure Manual Update and an ad hoc member of the Curriculum Committee. Nancy retired after a 39-year career as a Medical Technologist.

THOMAS CHASE – Candidate for Vice President



Tom retired 10 years ago and has been active in LIR for the past 6 years as both avid student and presenter for three different classes. Tom is an ardent volunteer and current president of the Wisconsin Conservation Trail Riders. He and Sharon have been married 46 years, they share a love of outdoor activities including motorcycling, travel, skiing, and bicycling, kayaking, and garden railroading. Tom looks forward to working with the LIR board in a way that continues to provide outstanding opportunities for all of us in our quest for knowledge and purpose.

Nominations continued:

JAN HESS - Candidate for Secretary



I retired 4-1/2 years ago as an administrative assistant to the police chief at UW-Green Bay. I love to play with my grandchildren and watch their sporting and school events. Also, I am Chair of our Social Justice Human Concerns committee and do volunteer work for the church which includes Unit Coordinator for an Ecumenical Partnership for Housing (EPH) duplex. Besides attending classes, I like to read, travel and spend summer weekends at my camper. "Life is good!"

RON NIESING – Candidate for Finance/Treasurer



Ron Niesing has been active with LIR as an instructor and committee member. He currently serves as Vice-Chair of the Finance Committee. Ron is retired from a 36-year career with the Social Security Administration and currently works part-time at the Aging and Disability Resource Center as an Outreach and Benefit Programs Specialist. Some other community activities over the years have included work with youth hockey, and Curative Connections. Ron currently serves on the board and as a volunteer mediator with the Green Bay Mediation Center. Ron is married and has one adult son living in Columbus, OH.

JAMES A HINCKLEY – Candidate for Member At Large



Originally from Illinois and a graduate of the University of Illinois College of Medicine and a retired Orthopedic Surgeon. He spent five years on active duty with the United States Navy from 1971 through 1978, including three years at the US Naval Academy practicing mainly sports medicine. James practiced Orthopedic Surgery and Sports Medicine with West Side Clinic and Prevea Health from 1978 to 2008. He was an all sports team physician at UW-Green Bay from 1978 to 2012. Hinckley has been a member of LIR since retirement and has served as a coordinator on several occasions. He has previous board experience at the Boys and Girls Club of Green Bay, has served multiple years on the Executive Committee, four years as President of the Wisconsin Quarter Horse Association, and taken part in the UW- Green Bay Phoenix Fund.

FRED DELIE – Candidate for Member At Large



Retired Project Manager, Long Time Resident of Green Bay. Fred has been an LIR Presenter, Coordinator and Curriculum Member.

DAN MALCORE – Candidate for Member At Large



I have had the privilege of teaching LIR for a number of years. My wife Mary and I have been married 46 wonderful years. Our proudest accomplishments are our five adult children who have gifted us with 10 grandchildren. I am a semi-retired 4th generation funeral director. Currently I am honored to serve as Vice President of St. Vincent DePaul of Green Bay. My wife and I deliver Meals on Wheels. I volunteer weekly at Paul's Pantry serving hunger in Green Bay. I am grateful to be considered as a member-at-large candidate for the Institute for Learning in Retirement. Behind the scenes I have always felt like an ambassador promoting LIR because it enriches our mind, body and soul all while introducing us to new relationships with people who have similar interests. How lucky we are to have this in our community.

Name Change Thoughts

By Barry Barrows, member,

I wish to object to and oppose the proposed name change for Learning in Retirement. I have four objections.

First, the Communications Committee has worked hard and diligently to get the name "Learning in Retirement" out to the public of Green Bay---AND THEY HAVE SUCCEEDED! I have talked to several people around town in their 40s and 50s who know about LIR and have repeatedly expressed the hope that LIR will still be around when they retire. IF the name is changed that hard work will have to be undertaken again from scratch.

Second, the expressed reason for the name change is that people not retired believe that they cannot take LIR courses, which, of course, is not true. HOWEVER how many people do you know who work a standard 40-hour week who can take courses on Mondays through Fridays from 10-Noon or 1-3? A small number perhaps who have weekdays off or who are stay-at-home moms or househusbands. It would be a miniscule number.

Third, Stevens Point has a catchy name—LIFE (Learning Is For Ever)—a great name. BUT it is always followed in parenthesis by the phrase: Learning in Retirement.

Finally, the phrase "Lifelong Learning" was trite and meaningless when I started working in Continuing/Adult Education in 1972. 40+ years later that triteness and meaninglessness has not changed. The phrase "Learning In Retirement" SAYS something. Indeed, it says exactly who we are and what we are doing. Who can ask for anything more?

Response by Sherry Moon, Communications committee chair

As chair of the communications committee feel that there should be a response to the above statements.

1. The communications committee has been discussing the possibility of a name change for at least four years. When I first joined the committee four years ago the topic was on the table. Over the past four years our promotional materials have emphasized "Life Long Learning" and de-emphasized "Learning in Retirement".

Our colored informational brochure has "Life Long Learning" as the primary heading, and the focus of our new banner is "Life Long Learning". I even noticed that the bag that was produced for the twentieth anniversary says "Life Long Learning". And while the logo is present on the bag there is no verbal reference to "Learning in Retirement."

2. I am not sure of the number of people who think or do not think that they can join our organization whether they are retired or not. However, from my experience at Arti Gras and Art Street people walk by our booth saying "I am not retired", and do not even stop to check us out (which is part of the reason that we had our new banner printed with life-long learning on it).

I also think there are people who may work at hours that would enable them to take advantage of our program. All jobs are not nine to five. There are also semi-retired individuals who do not consider themselves retired. I would prefer our organization to be more inclusive and not less.

3. I checked the UWSP web site for the LIFE organization. I agree that the name is catchy. However, in viewing the site, the program guide, the registration form, and the by-laws I did not see a parenthesized Learning in Retirement. I did see parenthesized explanation of LIFE (Learning is Forever).

4. I do not consider Life Long Learning trite. Learning should be for all ages. We are a member of the WALL Institute--Wisconsin Association of Life Long Learning. I also know of several individuals who are not retired and have chosen to be members so I question the accuracy of your statement saying that "Learning in Retirement defines who we are and what we are doing.

5. Multiple other people members have commented positively regarding the proposed name change.

6. I totally support the name change. It defines who we are; a community engaged in LIFE LONG LEARNING!!!

Jan Rickert

Coordinator, Former Board Secretary, Social Committee, Curriculum Committee, Nominations committee, and soon-to-be chair of the Volunteer Development committee

Life Pre-LIR:

Born in Chicago, but raised in Upper Michigan as her parents felt Chicago was no place to raise children—Jan is oldest of three, all girls. She graduated from Michigan State University in 1964 with a degree in Spanish. After graduation she married and moved to western New York. Jan then attended Nazareth College in Rochester, where she garnered a Master of Arts in Education. Having earned the necessary credentials to teach in New York she began a fulfilling career teaching special education. Jan found her niche. After the death of her husband in 1995 she decided to leave New York and return to her Midwest roots. She moved to this area as she had family here. Jan made another decision with the move—to retire from teaching. Not a person to sit around and do nothing, Jan assisted the manager of the Children’s museum, and worked as a crossing guard. In 1999 she married Rick and formally retired for the second time and began her third career as a volunteer. Jan’s LIR “ah-hah” moment came in 1996 when she attended the fall senior expo where she discovered LIR. She has been a member since January 1997.



Life beyond LIR:

“Recently LIR seems to be occupying most of my time particularly as I prepare to take over the chair of the Volunteer Development Committee.” In the free moments that I have I enjoy travelling. Presently we are planning a road trip to Texas and Louisiana. I have travelled to Churchill, Manitoba to study wild flowers, Machu Picchu, and to all the states save Colorado and New Mexico. “They are on my bucket list as is a cross country train ride”. “I usher at the Weidner Center and have done volunteer work for Heritage Hill, the American Heart and the American Diabetes Associations. Jan also is a reader particularly of spy novels, and a seamstress—she is making a dress to wear to a wedding this summer. Jan has three daughters, one in Chicago, one in Dallas and one in Detroit. She has four grandchildren. Jan has also sung with the Chantelles.

What does LIR mean to me:

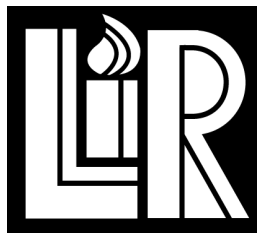
I have a very curious nature. LIR has enabled me to learn a lot in a short time. I have met many very nice people and it keeps me very busy. Last semester I was involved with 24 classes either as a student or coordinator. “I enjoy LIR; it is a great program.” In 19 years I have attended 100s of classes and have only left one at the break. That is an impressive record for the quality of this LIR program.

Most people don’t know, but:



Jan was a fashion model for one of the stores during high school years. “Here I am wearing the latest in tennis wear.” She almost entered the convent—twice, once after eighth grade and then again when she was in college. “I spent a whole summer considering it, but decided it wasn’t to be and continued at Michigan State.” Jan failed a fourth grade desk check because she had a paper that was not exactly in the right place. She also failed a spelling test because she was caught erasing. With these two exceptions she was the “perfect” student. Jan will only dance with her husband. And finally Jan spent time waiting for a Tsunami while in Australia, but that is another story.





Institute for Learning in Retirement 2471

Division of Outreach and Adult Access

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay

2420 Nicolet Dr.

Green Bay, WI 54311-7001

Nonprofit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Green Bay, WI

Permit No. 66

Contact People for LIR

President:

Frank Moon 866-1555

fsmoon@centurytel.net

Vice President:

Nancy McGrew 983-0859

tnnmcgrew@gmail.com

Secretary:

James Tanner 857-9142

jktanner@att.net

Treasurer:

John Arneth 337-1934

yooper@new.rr.com

LIR Photographer:

Ed Smith 494-5944

edsmith000@sbcglobal.net

Communications:

Sherry Moon 866-1555

smmoon@centurytel.net

Curriculum:

Bob Cook 321-0379

mjcook42@att.net

Social:

Dawn Sisel 494-0325

ddsisel@aol.com

Newsletter Editor:

Sherry Moon 866-1555

smmoon@centurytel.net

Volunteer Development:

Weston Carvenough 497-1108

wcarvenough@new.rr.com

Website Bulletin Board:

Ed Smith 494-5944

edsmith000@sbcglobal.net

LIR Office:

Jo Ann Feeney 465-2356

lir@uwgb.edu

LIR UWGB Advisor:

Christina Trombley

Website:

<http://www.uwgb.edu/lir>