

LIR NEWSLETTER

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT, INC., AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Volume 5, No. 4

February 2008



Learning in Retirement, Inc.
P.O. Box 49182
Athens, GA 30604-9182

Telephone: 706/549-7350

Please leave a message and someone will return your call.

LIR Website Address:

www.athenslir.org

Registration, reservation, and membership forms also available on the newsletter page of the website.

LIR Email Address:

lir_ga@yahoo.com

Be sure we have your current email address!

LIR Officers 2007-2008

Janet Stratton, President
Jim Tanner, Vice President
Peggy Cole, Secretary
Clarissa Finco, Treasurer

LIR Board of Directors

Anita Brannen
Ann Crowley
Tony Cushenberry
Bill Flatt
Kathy Gratzek
Jane Kelly
James Kissane
Jay Shinn
John Songster
Natalie Wellman

LIR Committees

Activity Groups: Anita Brannen

Curriculum: Jeani Goodwin

Finance: Jim Jacobson

Historian: Ann Crowley

Membership: Sharon Tate

Planning and External Liaison:

John Rudy and Jay Shinn

Public Relations: Roland Brooks

Publications: Inge Whittle

Registration: Mary Munnell and

Marie Abercrombie

Social: Phyllis Lane

Travel/Study: Steve and Nancy
Kassay

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Come on in, the weather's fine! At least it is in the LIR classrooms. Enrollments have poured in for Winter/Spring classes. LIR's lunch and learn programs, special interest groups, travel/study trips and social events are very popular, too. We can never have too much fun!

The Mission Statement for Learning in Retirement, Inc., has been updated and approved by the Board of Directors. It reads, "Learning in Retirement, Inc., offers quality learning opportunities and intellectual stimulation to enrich the lives of older Georgians." How does LIR fulfill that mission? Here are some of the ways: The high quality of all programs, the unusually active participation of members, giving back so others can benefit from the organization, how much fun it is, the blend of ages 50 to 90 plus, and a "stand alone" financial status are ones I will cite for starters. I'm sure you each could add some. What a wonderful system for generating timely programs and serving almost 400 Georgia residents. Pat yourselves on the back!

Janet Stratton

.... OVERHEARD IN THE BOARDROOM

- ▶ Jeremy S. Schwehm, LIR's new program coordinator, was introduced at the January 16, meeting of the board. Jeremy, a graduate student in adult education, is taking the place of E. A. Raines-Whorton.
- ▶ Janet Stratton, president, reported on the number of attendees at some of LIR'S latest functions: Holiday Party, 64; New Year's lunch at Carrabba's, 45; and Welcome/Registration, 160. As of Monday, January 14, LIR had 398 members.
- ▶ Coordinators of the Fall classes were recognized at the Welcome/Registration.
- ▶ Jane Kelly and Anita Brannen will attend the Nonprofit Management and Community Service Program of the Terry College of Business. John Rudy and Janet Stratton met with Libby V. Morris, director of University of Georgia's Institute of Higher Education. Kathy Gratzek and Jane Kelly will work together for health and public service related articles for the newsletter.
- ▶ The Travel/Study Committee has several new members but would welcome more volunteers. Upcoming trips are CNN and the World of Coca Cola, Feb. 19; Historic Augusta, March 20; and Abbeville, S.C., April 18-19.
- ▶ Jim Tanner, vice president, reported that one of our microphones will stay at the Council on Aging for LIR use. This should improve acoustics for Lunch and Learn programs.
- ▶ Packets for class instructors included a new reimbursement form that will be used mainly for printing expenses.
- ▶ Following a general discussion it was decided to distribute minutes of the board meetings to committee chairpersons and to provide a summary in the newsletter when space permits. LIR members are welcome to attend board meetings. The next meeting is February 20, 1:00-3:00 p.m. at River's Crossing, Room 136.



Jeremy Schwehm

CLASSES STILL AVAILABLE

The following classes and three Lunch and Learn lectures still have openings. They are listed here and a registration form is included in this issue. Full course descriptions and class dates are in the December 2007 newsletter. If you have misplaced yours, go to our website at www.athenslir.org, click on the Newsletter tab at the left to go to the Newsletter archives page, and locate the December issue there.

Except when specifically noted all classes meet at River's Crossing. Lunch and Learn lectures are held at the Athens Community Council on Aging, 135 Hoyt Street, beginning at 11:30.

You may register until the date a class begins, but check with Amy Munnell (706-207-1665) first for availability for those beginning soon, before completing the registration form.

NOTE: *An asterisk indicates that the class is almost filled and requires a call to Amy before registering.

COMPUTER COURSES

Computer Conversations (offered twice): Mar. 4 and May 9; 10:00-11:30; Room 143; \$5 each session

Intermediate Word: Apr. 8, 15, 22, 29 / May 6; 10:00-11:30; Room 143; \$25

Introduction to Windows II: Mar. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; 9:30-11:00; Room 143; \$25

Introduction to Windows II: Mar. 7, 21, 28 / Apr. 4, 11; 9:30-11:00; Room 143; \$25

GENERAL CURRICULUM

***A Spirited Look at Ghosts:** Mar. 25 / Apr. 1; 10:00-11:30; Room 139; \$10

Agricultural Technology: Mar. 20; 2:00-3:30; Room 139; \$5

Behind the Scene: John Wilkes Booth: Apr. 17, 24 / May 1, 8; 1:00-2:30; Room 135; \$20

German for Travelers: Apr. 7, 14, 28; 10:00-11:00; Room 139 / Apr. 21; Room 136; \$20

Globalization and American Jobs: Feb. 13, 20, 27; 10:00-11:30; Room 139; \$15

Guns across the Rio: May 8; 10:00-11:00; Room 135; \$5

Inside the University: May 6; 1:30-3:00; Central Presbyterian Church, Alps Road; \$5

***Introduction to Wine:** Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26; 2:00-3:00; Room 129; \$20

Jamming with Jazz: Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28 / Apr. 4; 10:00-11:30; Central Presbyterian Church, Alps Road; \$25

National Issues Forum: Mar. 12, 26; 10:00-11:30; Room 129 / Mar. 19, Room 135; \$29

***Naturally Spring at Sandy Creek Nature Center:** Apr. 3, 10, 17; 10:00-12:00; Sandy Creek Nature Center; \$15

Playwriting: Making a Play for the Stage: Feb. 19, 26 / Mar. 4, 11 and Feb. 22 (Fri.); 10:30-12:00; Room 129; \$25

Religious Studies in the University: Apr. 21; 1:00-2:30; Room 136; \$5

The Rise and Fall of Black Slavery: Feb. 20, 27 / Mar. 5; 9:00-11:00; Room 136; \$15

NOTE: This class has been cut back to three sessions. Purchase the text *The Rise and Fall of Black Slavery*, used or new, on www.amazon.com or on

www.abebooks.com.

Sampling the Great Books: Apr. 9, 16, 23, 30; 10:00-12:00; Room 136; \$20

The Speaker in the Poem: Apr. 4, 11, 18, 25; 10:00-11:30; Room 136; \$20

Survivable Gardens: Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27; 10:00-11:00; Room 139; \$48

Time Orientation, Well-Being, and Retirement: Apr. 11; 1:00-2:30; Room 129; \$5

***Yoga:** Feb. 19, 26 / Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25; 10:00-11:30; ACCA; \$30

LUNCH AND LEARN LECTURES

Spanish Artist Alvar Suñol: Mar. 3; 11:30; \$15

UGA Library Treasures: Apr. 7; 11:30; \$15

Late-Blooming Visual Arts Creativity: May 5; 11:30; \$15

Do You Know . . . ?

. . . that Aging Connection is a free telephone service of the Northeast Georgia Regional Development Center Area Agency on Aging? For free information regarding resources on financial assistance, healthcare services, or services in other areas of the state and country, call Aging Connection at 706-583-2546. When you call, have a brief description of your need or question ready. If you are unsure what kind of service is best for your situation, don't worry. The staff member who answers your call can guide you to the right sources.

. . . that the 2008 updated and revised ACC FROM A TO Z, the guide to the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government and Community Services, will be available late in February to anyone who would like to pick up a copy at City Hall, Public Information Office, on the first floor? This sixty-page guide is especially useful for those new to Athens or for those who find it too frustrating to search the phone directory for the correct telephone number or specific information. Contact information for our local, state, and federal elected officials is also included.

Here is just one example of information offered in the current guide offered online at www.athensclarkecounty.com. Need more ideas for conserving water? Find the current guide's menu, click on W, then on Water Conservation, and go to ACC Public Utilities Department. Finally, click on "75 Water Conservation Tips" to the left of the "Think at the Sink" logo, and there they are, all 75 of them.

If you plan to pick up a hard copy of the guide, call Jeff Montgomery at 706-613-3795 to confirm that the new edition has arrived.

. . . that you young-at-heart LIR members can also find out how young you are mentally and physically? Just give about twenty minutes of your time and lifestyle information at www.realage.com and wait about an hour for a thorough analysis. It will tell you what you are doing right (like making friends in LIR) and what you are doing wrong (like not keeping your diet and exercise resolutions) before it tells you your "real" age.

[This column is jointly offered by board members Kathy Gratzek and Jane Kelly.]

SPRING 2008 TRAVEL/STUDY EVENTS

Abbeville Theatre Weekend

Friday and Saturday, April 18 and 19

This theatre package, repeated by request, includes an overnight stay at the historic Belmont Inn in Abbeville, S.C., tickets to the Burt Stark Mansion, a complimentary wine get-together on Friday afternoon, fine dining choices from the menu for dinner, coffee and dessert at the Inn after the play, and tickets for the Abbeville Opera House performance of *Prisoner of Second Avenue* (a Neil Simon play). A continental breakfast on Saturday morning is also part of the package.

Abbeville is a community replete with art and history. Jefferson Davis, Sarah Bernhart and John C. Calhoun all played parts in its rich history. The Abbeville Opera House, with its scarlet and gold interior, is the official State Theatre of South Carolina. Visitors can view an impressive exhibit of Native American works at the town library as well as paintings depicting 100 years of Abbeville history at the Welcome Center. For those who like to wander and shop, spacious tree-lined Court Square offers those pleasures.

The cost of the overnight package is \$189 per couple for a deluxe queen bedroom, \$179 per couple for a regular queen bedroom, and \$179 per couple (or two sharing) for a twin bedroom. *SPACE IS LIMITED, so please indicate your interest promptly by calling Frances Lang at 706-353-7733.* Once your reservation is confirmed, please send payment to her by March 15. Mail your check, made payable to *Learning in Retirement, Inc.*, with the reservation form to Frances Lang, 156 South Homewood Drive, Athens, GA 30606-1704. *Payment is due by March 15.*

Kangaroo "Watching"

Preview Announcement for May Trip

Have you ever wondered if any kangaroos managed to emigrate from down under? Well, wonder no more. This spring, we'll be making a return trip to the Kangaroo Convention Center in Dawsonville, Georgia, which has the largest kangaroo population outside of Australia. Plan to take part and watch for details for this event in the next issue of this newsletter. It is scheduled for May 6.

responsibilities extend beyond those described and further include the office of admissions, office of the registrar, and the prelaw and premedical programs. Of particular relevance to LIR, he was co-chair of the Task Force on General Education and Student Learning, whose recommendations are the substance of changes under way at UGA. He is a regular discussion leader in LIR courses.



Steve and Nancy Kassay recruit LIR members for the Travel/Study Committee at 2008 Winter Welcome/Registration meeting in January.

Curriculum Bio Change

Dr. Jere Morehead's position at the University was incorrectly described in the curriculum section of our December newsletter. He holds the position of vice president for instruction at the University of Georgia. Dr. Morehead's

WINTER/SPRING SOCIAL EVENTS

Lunch at Fatz Restaurant

Tuesday, March 11, 1:00

Let the March winds blow! We can enjoy a late lunch at the new "Fatz" restaurant on Lexington Road, just east of Gaines School Road. This is a popular South Carolina chain with soup and salad for \$6.99, starters from \$5.99, and entrees that range from \$7.99 to \$13.99. Make your reservation by calling Mary Ready at 706-552-0508 *no later than Saturday, March 8.*

Coffee at Barnes and Noble

Wednesday, March 26, 10:00

Take a mid-morning, mid-week break and relax with friends while nibbling on a tasty bakery goodie in a pleasant setting surrounded by books, books, and more books! Barnes and Noble is located on the Atlanta Highway.

Lunch at Lumpkin Café

Thursday, April 10, 1:00

The dining room portion of the Lumpkin Café has been enlarged and will accommodate us comfortably as we enjoy a leisurely meal in the ambience of the charming old house situated directly across from Earth Fare. The eatery's varied menu includes a selection of vegetarian dishes for those wanting a lighter fare. Call Phyllis Lane at 706-548-1606 to make your reservation *by Monday, April 7.*

A New Special Interest Group Is Born



LIR members took a course last fall, and when it ended about 2/3 of the class just couldn't let it go. They wanted more – and they're getting it. Marilyn Schroeder's class, *String of Pearls: Writing Your Life Story*, has evolved into a writing group, a new monthly LIR activity. It met at ACCA in January and will meet again on February 25. Its purpose is to provide mutual support as participants reach for that mutual but also individual goal of writing their autobiography.

Here's how it works so far. Members listen to snippets of each other's writing (three or four pages) and then critique the writer, e.g., commenting on good points, pointing out elements of confusion, and offering suggestions. As the group grows, smaller groups will be formed so that everyone has a chance to read his or her piece and receive the input, encouragement, and support so necessary to stay motivated and keep the process moving.

A regular meeting time will be set soon. In the meantime, if you are interested call Kristina Stephens (706-583-8990), Marilyn Schroeder (706-353-8822), or Jim Tanner (706-227-9276) to get specific details and to get started.

Great Escapes

The Athens Community Council on Aging will hold its second annual Great Escapes Travel Extravaganza on February 22, 2008, at the Athens County Club. Tickets are \$100 per person and reserved tables will be available for LIR members. Proceeds from the gala will go toward funding the many programs benefitting older adults in our community.

In keeping with the great escapes theme, the elegant affair will begin at 6:30 with cocktails, music, and a silent auction of items that every traveler needs on that dream adventure. A gourmet dinner, beginning at 7:30, will be followed by a live auction, at which time guests may bid on an oil painting, *La Jolla Shore*, and 20 trip packages. The trips vary in length and location, from one nighters to seven nighters, from Georgia to locales across the United States, Canada, and even Europe.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Helen Irving at 706-540-4850.

Put These Dates on Your Calendar

Tuesday, Feb. 19	Atlanta trip: CNN and Coca Cola
Wednesday, Feb. 27	Coffee at Earth Fare
Monday, Mar. 3	L&L: Spanish artist Alva Sun?ol
Tuesday, Mar. 11	Lunch at Fatz Restaurant
Thursday, Mar. 20	Augusta trip: Woodrow Wilson home, historic Augusta, Morris Museum of Art
Wednesday, Mar. 26	Coffee at Barnes and Noble
Monday, Apr. 7	L&L: UGA Library Treasures
Thursday, Apr. 10	Lunch at Lumpkin Café
Friday, Apr. 11	Annual Meeting at Holiday Inn Express
Fri./ Sat., Apr. 18-19	Abbeville Theatre Weekend

Remember to wear your name tag to all LIR functions!

Membership, registration and reservation forms may be printed from the LIR website www.athenslir.org



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Learning
 Retirement Inc.
 P.O. Box 49182
 Athens, GA 30604-9182

WINTER 2008 LATE WINTER REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

_____ Cost \$ _____

_____ Cost \$ _____

_____ Cost \$ _____

I want to register for Lunch and Learn lecture(s) on:

_____ (dates) @ \$15.00 per person = \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Mail this reservation form with check made payable to *Learning in Retirement, Inc.*, to Amy Munnell, 125 University Drive, Athens, GA 30606-1435.

Abbeville Theatre Weekend Friday and Saturday, April 18 and 19

(Call Frances Lang at 706-353-7733 first for reservation)

Payment is due by March 15. — Remember that space is limited.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

The cost of \$179 or \$189 includes all expenses. Indicate choice below.

\$179 per couple (or two sharing) for twin bedroom: \$ _____ enclosed

\$179 per couple for regular queen bedroom: \$ _____ enclosed

\$189 per couple for deluxe queen bedroom: \$ _____ enclosed

Mail this reservation form with check made payable to *Learning in Retirement, Inc.*, to Frances Lang, 156 Homewood Drive, Athens, GA 30606-1704.