

LIR NEWSLETTER

Celebrating 15 years ~ 1994-2009

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

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Learning in Retirement, Inc.
P.O. Box 49182
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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 2008-2009
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Peggy Cole, Secretary
Clarissa Finco, Treasurer

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We had a successful registration event, and Carol Gogstad and Terry Caven, co-chairs of the registration committee who were doing this for their first time, deserve our congratulations. I certainly met many new folks who were attending and just getting their feet wet for the first time with LIR. Everyone was quite enthusiastic about the wide and diverse offerings for this term. While we are experiencing some classes and events filling up very quickly, we are striving to have sign-up lists for the next time the class will be taught to provide more opportunity for everyone.

LIR with UGA has been awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation (www.osherfoundation.org) to assist in improving our organization. This will result in the formation of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UGA. The proposal that we submitted to receive this grant specified that we would expend that money over the next 12 months in four areas of research to yield reports and recommendations for improvement. We are also obliged to begin an outreach effort to increase our membership to more than 500 within the 12 months. We had 430 members by mid- January 2009. We will begin to use both logos in future communications. If we are successful and if the Foundation remains viable, there could be opportunity for further funding of our program.

I am inviting you to become involved in these studies and outreach effort since the satisfaction with LIR affiliation to each of you is a measure of the program's success. Over the years, many of you have already offered ideas and suggestions for change. Here is a chance to make suggestions in a more formalized approach that will assess your ideas against others.

Sometimes it's good to pause to feel good about something, especially when many of us are experiencing some very difficult times. Therefore, we will be celebrating the 15th year of LIR since its 1994 creation. More information will be coming to alert you and invite you to participate.

Jim Tanner

EARLY 2009 DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, Feb. 19	Coffee at Zim's
Monday, Feb 23	L&L: Window of Lifelong Learning
Friday, Feb. 27	Carter and Fernbank Museums Trip
Mon. Mar. 9	L&L: John Henry
Tuesday, Mar. 17	Lunch at Southwest Café
Saturday, Mar. 21	Atlanta's Highs and History Trip
Thursday, Mar. 26	Afternoon Coffee: Two Story Coffee House
Wednesday, Apr. 1	Lunch at Olive Garden
Friday, Apr. 17	A Theater Evening: Town and Gown
Wednesday, Apr. 22	ACCA Ty Cobb Museum Trip

CLASSES, LUNCH & LEARN LECTURES STILL AVAILABLE

The following courses and Lunch & Learn lectures still have openings. Room numbers are shown for the courses meeting at River's Crossing; other locations are given here. The Lunch & Learn Lecture series is always held on Mondays at the Athens Community Council for Aging (ACCA), beginning at 11:30 and immediately followed by lunch. For full descriptions, check your December 2008 newsletter or find it on the Newsletters page of the LIR website: www.athenslir.org.

COMPUTER AND GENERAL CURRICULUM

C/T: Introduction to Personal Computing: Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27; 1:00-2:30; 143; \$20 (limited)

C/T: Introduction to the Internet: Apr. 3, 10, 17, 24; 1:00-2:30; 143; \$20 (limited)

America's Energy Future: What Will Be Left? Mar 30, 31 / Apr. 1, 2, 3, 10:00-11:30; 135; \$25 (limited)

The Bahá'í Faith: An Emerging World Religion: May 13, 20; 1:00-3:00; 136; \$10

Being a Messenger of Peace in a Violent World: Mar. 18; 10:00-11:30; 139; \$5

Botanical Gardens: May 8; 12:00-3:00; Botanical Gardens; \$5 (limited)

Brewing Terrapin Beer: Apr. 24; 4:00-5:30; Terrapin Beer; \$5 (limited)

Choosing Well: Mar. 11; 10:00-12:00; 135; \$5

Counterfeiters . . . in 19th-Century America: Apr. 21, 23; 9:30-10:30; 135; \$10

Drawing More Than Flies: Apr. 24 / May 1, 15, 22, 29; 10:00-12:00; 136; \$25 (limited)

Ending Poverty through Fair Trade: Apr. 8, 15, 22, 29; 2:00-3:30; 135; \$20

Financial Bubbles: Feb. 25 / Mar. 4, 18, 25; 10:00-11:30; 139 (Room 62 on 3/18); \$20

Global Home Wrecker: Mar. 4; 10:00-11:00; 135; \$5

The Good Grape: Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; 1:00-2:00; 139; \$20

Great Decisions: Mar. 19, 26 / Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23; 9:30-11:00; 139; \$48 (limited)

Home: Your Best Option As an Older Adult: Apr. 8, 15, 22, 29; 9:30-11:00; 136; \$20

In Case of an Emergency: Apr. 3; 10:00-11:30; 911 Call Center; \$5

Issues of the Mind: Feb. 17; 10:00-12:00; Central Presbyterian Church; \$5

Maids of Clay Pottery: Mar. 27; 10:00; Madison, Ga.; \$5

Managing Your Financial Future: Feb. 19, 26 / Mar. 5; 11:00-12:30; 135; \$15

Pursuing the Paranormal: Mar. 31 / Apr. 2; 9:30-11:00; 64; \$10

Pygmalion and My Fair Lady: Apr. 13, 20, 27 / May 11, 18; 9:00-11:00; 135; \$25

Thyme after Thyme: May 1; 2:00-4:00; Thyme after Thyme Nursery; \$5 (limited)

Whale Watching: Mar. 23; 10:00-12:00; 139; \$5

COURSE CANCELLATIONS

Aphrodisiacs in Western Culture - Murray Blum

Joseph Campbell: The Myth Maker - Elizabeth Warner

LUNCH & LEARN LECTURES

A Window of Lifelong Learning: Feb. 23; 11:30; \$15

John Henry: March 9; 11:30; \$15

Offshore and Coastal Development in Georgia: Apr. 6; 11:30; \$15

NOTE: For courses marked "limited" or any beginning within a week of your receiving this newsletter, please call Amy Munnell (706-207-1665) before registering.

Our LIR Activities Chair Asks

At registration earlier this month, a number of people expressed an interest in having a bridge group for less experienced bridge players. The group that exists now has been playing together for years. They have tried bringing in new or novice players, but since that requires different tables, the numbers often don't work out. This prompts me to ask if someone would be interested in sponsoring or coordinating a new bridge group for less experienced players or teaching bridge classes, or both. If so, please let me know because this question arises at every registration meeting.

Further, would one of you agree to coordinate a group interested in attending UGA Women's Gymnastics meets? This is also frequently asked about. It could be set up similarly to the Women's Basketball Group in which Frances Lang gets the names and money from LIR members who want to attend the Lady Dog Basketball games and buys the season tickets in a block (more or less). It's a lot of fun to go and see friends there - and not only at the games. For instance, a couple of weeks ago those who were interested met for lunch before one of the Lady Dogs Sunday afternoon games. Is anyone interested in organizing a Women's Gymnastics or perhaps another sport group?

As LIR continues its phenomenal growth, new ideas for activity groups germinate all the time. This year we organized an investment club because one of our members agreed to coordinate it, and last year the biking and life-story writing groups evolved in the same way. If you have some interest in organizing a group around your favorite activity, please let me know.

You can contact me via phone: 706-543-1480; email: anitabarney@charter.net; or mail: 290 Waterford Way, Athens, GA 30606.

Anita Brannen

WINTER/SPRING TRAVEL STUDY

Reminder: Saturday March 21

Atlanta's Highs and History

If this newsletter is in your hands before February 16, you may still be able to get in on the March 21 trip to the Atlanta High Museum and the Cyclorama. The December 2008 newsletter, your hard copy or online at our website, contains a full description of the event. For information on how to proceed, call Joan Zitzelman at 706-546-6345.

ACCA Sponsored Day Trip

Ty Cobb Museum and the Swamp Guinea Restaurant Wednesday, April 22

We will tour the Royston museum dedicated to "The Georgia Peach," one of baseball's greatest players. Then we will travel to nearby Hartwell to the famous Swamp Guinea Restaurant to feast on an all-you-can-eat seafood meal (catfish, perch, shrimp, fries, hushpuppies, slaw, and drink).

The group will meet at the Athens Community Council on Aging. Departure will be at 2:00 in the afternoon with an expected return at 8:00 p.m. Cost of the trip is \$20 (to be paid on the day of the trip) and includes travel by van, food, and the gratuity. Call Chris or June at 706-549-4850 for information and to register. Registration will be held from March 23 through April 16, 2009.

Abbeville Theatre Overnight

Friday and Saturday, April 24 and 25

This theatre event, for which we provide our own transportation, has become a very popular annual outing for LIR members. It 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, dinner at the Inn, and tickets for the Abbeville Opera House performance of *The Hallelujah Girls*, a rollicking Southern comedy, followed by coffee and dessert. A continental breakfast on Saturday is available for \$7.95 or a full breakfast (\$5-\$6) at Lynn's Café on Route 72 (3/4 mile away) is an alternative.

Abbeville is a community replete with art and history. Jefferson Davis, Sarah Bernhardt and John C. Calhoun all played roles in its rich history. The Abbeville Opera House, with its scarlet and gold interior, is the official State Theatre of South Carolina. The town library houses an impressive exhibit of Native American works, and paintings in the Welcome Center depict 100 years of Abbeville history. These attractions, together with the Inn, border Abbeville's spacious tree-lined Court Square.

The cost of the overnight package is now \$285 per couple for a deluxe queen bedroom, \$259 per couple for a regular queen bedroom, and \$259 per couple (or two sharing) for a twin bedroom. SPACE IS LIMITED, so please indicate your interest by calling Frances Lang at 706-353-7733. After your reservation is confirmed, 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 must be received by April 6, 2009.

WINTER/SPRING SOCIAL EVENTS

Coffee at Zim's

Thursday, February 19, 10:00

Zim's is located in the Colonial Promenade Shopping Center (formerly Beechwood). It offers excellent coffee, muffins, etc., and until 10:30 a.m. you may select an entrée cooked to order. Join friends for your custom-made breakfast or just coffee and conversation.

Lunch at the Southwest Café

Tuesday, March 17, 1:30

Let's wear green when the March winds blow, but stay cozy and warm as we enjoy lunch at the Southwest Café next to Borders Bookstore in the Colonial Promenade Shopping Center (formerly Beechwood) on Alps Road at the end of Baxter Street. Make your reservation by Sunday, March 15, by calling Phyllis Lane at 706-548-1606.

Afternoon Coffee

Thursday, March 26, 2:00

This afternoon we'll explore a new spot for coffee and a late-March visit. It is the newly opened Two Story Coffee House across from Earth Fare on Lumpkin Street in Five Points.

Lunch at Olive Garden

Wednesday, April 1, 1:30

How about an April Fool's Day party in the form of a delicious lunch at the Olive Garden located on the Atlanta Highway next door to Barnes and Noble Booksellers. To make your reservation call Phyllis Lane at 706-548-1606 by Monday, March 30.

A Theater Evening

Friday, April 17, 8:00

This night is dedicated to a bit of sleuthing in jolly old England. It's *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure* at the Town and Gown Playhouse. Make your reservation by calling Phyllis Lane at 706-548-1606 by Monday, April 13. Tickets are \$15.00, which you will pay at the box office.

Looking Ahead to May

With May only a few short months away, it's time to put on your walking shoes, get outside, and smell the roses. A trip to the Atlanta History Center and the Atlanta Botanical Gardens is being planned for that month.

AHC [www.atlantahistorycenter.com] is a unique 33-acre campus in historic Buckhead that houses the Atlanta History Museum, Centennial Olympic Games Museum, Swan House, gardens, and more.

ABG [www.atlantabotaniclagarden.org] contains more than 30 acres of scenic gardens and woodlands. Check your email and the next newsletter for more information. Steve Kassay, phone 706-543-8045 or skassay@bellsouth.net, will be the contact person.

ACC Library Book Sale – February 24-28

If you enjoy reading but get tired of paying the price for new books, here is the event for you. The Friends of the Athens-Clarke County Library have announced their 25th annual book sale. It will be held at the former Michael's store in Perimeter Square on Huntington Road, off the Atlanta Highway. The sale features thousands of books, CDs, and DVDs at incredible prices.

A preview night on Feb. 24 kicks off the event. It runs from 4 p.m. - 8 p.m. and there is an admission charge for that one event. The regular sale (no admission fee) is Wednesday, Feb. 25, through Friday, Feb. 27, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Saturday, February 28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All proceeds from the book sale benefit the Athens-Clarke County Library. For more information call 706-613-3650, ext. 344.



Membership and registration forms are always available to print at the LIR website www.athenslir.org



WINTER 2009 LATE WINTER REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

I want to register for the following course(s):

_____ Cost \$ _____

_____ Cost \$ _____

_____ Cost \$ _____

I want to register for Lunch & 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 Overnight

Friday and Saturday, April 24 and 25

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

Payment is due by April 6, 2009. - Remember that space is limited.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

The cost of \$285 or \$259 includes all expenses except Saturday breakfast. Indicate choice below.

\$259 per couple (or two sharing) for twin bedroom: \$ _____ enclosed

\$259 per couple for regular queen bedroom: \$ _____ enclosed

\$285 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.