

LIR NEWSLETTER

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

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Please leave a message, and someone will return your call.

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Be sure we have your current email address!

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 11th ANNUAL MEETING

For those of you unable to attend the annual meeting, we include John's message in full here.

Entering our twelfth year, we can all say that LIR affords us more opportunities in learning, group activities, and travel and social gatherings with each year. This is due to your success as a group of individuals in forging and cultivating an exemplar volunteer organization. As a group, we are growing and prospering because we manage to provide an extensive choice of what members want with efficiency and effectiveness, at modest cost.

We have three challenges; we have three opportunities. They are one and the same.

Our primary challenge is to maintain our trajectory, earning our keep by pleasing members, attracting new members, and building a durable foundation for the future. This foundation requires healthy participation in governance, in managing our activities, and in participation. With increased professional staff and sound management of our affairs, I consider that we have built an effective structure for our affairs going forward — thanks to this broad participation.

Our financial affairs are in good order. We are able to increase activities and handle growth with a balanced budget of modest proportions. As you recall, we have decided to take advantage of our status as a charitable institution by forming a development fund with which to attract tax-exempt donations from varied sources. This will be a source of stability in need as well as the means to purchase items such as classroom equipment to enhance our learning experiences.

In meeting our self-management challenge, we are blessed with an esprit de corps that is our signal success and guaranty for the future. I believe this comes from a collective genius that feeds on itself, illustrated by our growing numbers and web of mutual esteem and friendship. What better opportunity than this?

A second challenge is to continue to care for the heart of our mission: attracting excellent faculty to share their wisdom as we extend our corps of willing teachers. Led by our curriculum committee, we are successfully offering more courses semester-by-semester, many taught by younger faculty as well as reliable veterans. As we identify and solicit new faculty, we must be vigilant in providing the psychic income that superior teachers need and have come to expect from us, leaving no stone unturned in meriting their participation in the life of LIR. They are our lifeblood, we must never forget. Here is another opportunity to seize.

Our third challenge is to expand our usefulness to the university and the community at large, along with our publicity profile. Here we can note progress, in particular with the UGA Department of Adult Education under Ron Cervero. Our relationship with the senior professors and staff at River's Crossing is in robust health, with what we both hope will be substantial joint ventures in coming months.

Continued on page 2

SUMMER EVENTS

June 8, 10:30: Coffee at Cups

June 23, 11:30: Botanical Garden Exhibition and Lunch

July 13, 10:00: Georgia Museum of Art Photo Exhibition

July 27, 10:30: Coffee at Continuing Ed Center

August 11, 2:30: High Tea at Garden of Eden, Watkinsville

August 24, 10:30: Coffee at Big City Bread

President's Report (continued)

Among these are class teaching exchanges, panel discussions with students, and exploration of joining a worldwide online course system well established in the UK and Australia. The Gerontology Center is routing qualified project students and faculty from the University to us in increasing numbers, where our participation enriches worthwhile research. Contact between LIR officers and senior UGA administration figures is stepping up, with exchanges of information and opinion that build value. And our ties with the Athens Community Council on Aging are solid, frequent, and growing — to our mutual benefit.

This momentum with the community and university is a great opportunity for us. With better publicity and a record of providing value to key constituencies around us, we are assured of a stable, more worthwhile future for ourselves.

In seizing these opportunities, I encourage every member to put a shoulder to the wheel in whatever manner you choose. Don't stand back: your effort will bring multiple rewards to each of you as well as our commonweal!

John Rudy, President

SUMMER EVENTS

Coffee at Cups

Wednesday, June 8, 10:30

Come join new and long-time members for a social time at Cups, a cafe in the Green Acres Shopping Center, on Barnett Shoals Road. Cups features a delectable assortment of sweets to go with that coffee — scones, muffins, brownies, and cakes — as well as varieties of coffees, pots, and mugs for sale. Enjoy your friends, the ambience, and the colorful posters and prints that adorn the walls.

Traveling Exhibition at the Botanical Garden

Thursday, June 23, 11:30, followed by lunch

"Feast Your Eyes: The Unexpected Beauty of Vegetable Gardens" is an exhibition by the Smithsonian Institution. It traces the visual appeal of vegetable gardens across centuries, continents, and cultures. Considered the Cinderella of the horticultural world, the vegetable garden has typically been outshone by her flashier floral stepsisters. Centuries ago, however, the vegetable gardens were the belles of the ball, designed to be productive and pleasing to the eye. Over time, they became hardworking, unassuming wallflowers. But, fashions have changed. Today, vegetable gardens are glamorous again, taking the center stage in many American yards.

We will meet in the lobby. So that tables can be reserved for us at Café Trumps, call Mary Ready at 706-552-0508 or Phyllis Lane at 706-548-1606 by June 21 if you plan to join the group for lunch. The State Botanical Garden is located at 2450 South Milledge Avenue.

Photograph Exhibition at the Georgia Museum of Art

Wednesday, July 13, 10:00

Photo buffs and others interested in photography are invited to the Diane Arbus Exhibition at the Georgia Museum of Art. We'll first gather and look at the display, and at 10:30 Ruth Ann Walton, a member of LIR and volunteer docent of the museum, will discuss Arbus's background and her work.

The Georgia Museum of Art, 90 Carlton Street, is located in the university's Performing and Visual Arts Complex on the east campus. Carlton Street intersects East Campus Road. At that traffic light, cross the railroad tracks, and follow directions into the parking lot adjacent to the complex. Parking is free but the museum will welcome a \$3.00 donation.

Coffee at the Continuing Ed Center

Wednesday, July 27, 10:30

Late July weather should be perfect for sitting outside in a quiet, gently shaded area and relaxing over a cup of coffee. Come and join friends on the garden patio of the Georgia Center for Continuing Education. The adjacent parking deck is easily accessible to the center.

High Tea at the Garden of Eden

Thursday, August 11, 2:30

How about a little taste of Europe in Georgia? Experience an English high tea at the Garden of Eden: Tea Salon and Dessert Parlor in Watkinsville, at 10 North Main Street. But don't expect to just have a quick "cuppa" and run home to fix supper. This fare includes tea, tasty delicate sandwiches, scones, fruit, and dessert prepared by pastry chef Tyra Lewis. Cost of the meal is \$17.00. Because seating is limited, please send your check payable to Learning in Retirement, Inc., to Amy Munnell, 125 University Drive, Athens, GA 30605 by August 6.

Last Summer Coffee at Big City Bread

Wednesday, August 24, 10:30

Here's your last chance to enjoy summer coffee with LIR friends. Enjoy the beverage, the camaraderie, and pick up some fresh bread or other baked goods at the same time. Big City Bread is located at 393 North Finley Street. Seating is available inside or on the patio depending on weather, and a parking lot is located across the street. Turn north from Hancock Ave. or south from Prince Ave. to reach the bakery.

BRIDGE THIS SUMMER

The LIR Bridge group meets every first and third Wednesday of each month at the Athens Council on Aging in the Glass Dining Room from 1:00 to about 4:00 to play bridge. All members are welcome to join the group. You must be a member to join, but non-LIR members may serve as substitutes. Members are contacted by telephone or email for each session so there are players to fill each table. It is an enthusiastic group that welcomes new players. Call Lucille Hoyt at 706-548-3969 for further information and to get on the list.

Introducing the New LIR Officers and Board Members

Albert F. Ike, President

Al is from New Jersey and went to Rutgers. He did graduate work at Cornell and North Carolina State. He and his wife Ruth came to Athens in 1960 as a researcher in the Forest Service. He retired from UGA as Assistant Vice President for Public Service and Outreach. He has just completed two years as President of the Little Cumberland Association, which manages the property on the island. He is active in the Greenway Project and the Oconee River Land Trust and has served on the LIR Board of Directors.

Jim Jacobson, Vice President

Jim grew up in Iowa and studied engineering at Iowa State University. Most of his career has been spent in Athens, working in manufacturing management for Westinghouse. Jim loves to travel, sail, and work in his yard. He also gives time to facilities and maintenance at his church. Jim has served as Treasurer for the past three years and has been on the Board of Directors previously. With two sons living in Georgia, Jim and his wife, Nancy, enjoy and spend quality time their four grandchildren.

Peggy Cole, Secretary

Peggy hails from Bay Village, Ohio, and attended Miami University and the University of Georgia. An elementary school teacher for 35 years, she taught for 30 of those in the Clarke County School District. She is active with the Georgia Museum of Art, the Piedmont Gardeners, and the Foundation for Excellence of the Clarke County School District in awarding scholarships, grants, and recognizing outstanding teachers. Gardening and travel are her passions: she has gone fly fishing in Alaska, snorkeled on the coast of Venezuela, and sailed down the Amazon on an old steamer.

Stephani Foss, Treasurer

Born in Baltimore, Stephani moved to Athens at age four and has made it her base ever since. She studied at the University of Georgia and in Massachusetts before returning and teaching high school math here, chairing the department during her last ten years. Supposedly retired, she nevertheless teaches several courses in an adjunct capacity at Piedmont College — math and math methods to future teachers — and supervises student teachers in four cities. Amazingly, she still finds time for her main loves, her young granddaughter and duplicate bridge.

Ronald Cerwonka, Board Member

Ron comes from the Northeast, a suburb of Boston and graduated from high school in Medford, Mass. He went to Boston College for his BA and MA, and got his PhD in Economics from the University of Missouri in 1973. He served in the Army in Alaska. After graduation Ron

owned a trucking business and later worked for a number of companies. He taught at Saint Bonaventure and later retired from Providence College. Now he teaches for Piedmont College, participates in forums at the Unitarian Church, and has been active on LIR committees for a number of years.

Gerald R. Firth, Board Member

Jerry Firth grew up in Watervliet, New York, just 9 blocks from Doris, his wife. They have known each other since they were 5 & 6 years old, went to the same school, the same church, were officers in the same school organizations. He went to SUNY-Albany, received his doctorate, and first served as an Assistant Superintendent of Schools, then taught at the University of Buffalo, Minnesota, the University of Alabama, and then the University of Georgia. He was Department Head of Curriculum and Supervision, and later Dean of the College of Education. He was also president of his national professional association, ASCD. Doris and Jerry have been traveling extensively since he retired.

Leo S. Jensen, Board Member

A west-coaster, Leo Jensen hails from Bellingham, Washington. He started college at Washington State, was drafted in 1942 and served in Europe, returning to college in 1946. His PhD is from Cornell University and his area of specialization is animal nutrition. He came to the University of Georgia in 1973 as a full professor and retired in 1991. Leo is an avid gardener; his garden was on the tour of gardens last year and once before 11 years ago. He loves to show it off!

Mary Munnell, Board Member

Born in Athens, Mary was reared in Elbert County and studied social work at various schools including Georgia State College for Women and the University of Georgia. She was a probation officer for the Georgia Department of Corrections for 28 years. Her retirement is busy. She enjoys reading, traveling, and cooking, and obviously competing, as her accomplishments in shot putting and discus throwing at various Master's Athletic Meets have proven. In fact, both she and her husband, John, have placed in those two events and will be competing in the Golden Olympics in Pittsburgh this summer.

David Rosenzweig, Board Member

David was born in Brooklyn and grew up in White Plains, New York. After studying electrical engineering at Cornell University, his career took him to many parts of the country, including Florida and Connecticut, as he worked on NASA projects and did contract work for major companies. Looking for a retirement spot closer to one of their children, David and his wife, Diane, moved to Athens from Durham several years ago. David enjoys his many LIR activities and classes and claims he's just "learning to retire" right now. He's already added playing tennis and learning bridge to that exercise.

A SPECIAL INTEREST

I've long been a knitter and crocheter, so when I saw that LIR had a Stitch and Chat group I enthusiastically signed up. Being a member of the group, with its warm fellowship, has offered me countless opportunities.

- To become more knowledgeable about Athens by visiting new areas of our city. Since I'm not a long-term resident of Athens, these excursions helped me get a feel for the city.
- To visit a local yarn shop and learn more about different yarns and the intricacies of various techniques.
- To find new patterns for baby blankets. One of my missions in retirement is to knit or crochet baby blankets for those in need. Since joining the group, I've produced ten blankets.
- To visit members' homes, observe their creativity and be challenged to try something new myself.

The Stitch and Chat group has been such a great icebreaker for me in making new friends here in Athens. Come join us!
---Kristina Stephens

INTERESTED IN UGA COURSES?

The University of Georgia offers two options for seniors 62 years and older who are interested in attending classes: "auditing" courses or taking them for credit. There are no provisions for auditing courses and having a formal record of it; however, anyone may talk with a faculty member and make arrangements to sit in on a class informally.

To take classes for credit, seniors must apply to UGA for admission and meet all the requirements for admission. Registration is on a space available basis, but does not apply to medical, dental, veterinary, or law schools. Further information is available on the university site in the UGA bulletin. Access <http://bulletin.uga.edu> and click on "admissions", then scroll down the sidebar to "admissions and registration of persons 62 years of age and older."

PREVIEW OF FALL TRAVEL/STUDY EVENTS

[Registration for these will be in September, but mark your calendars now.]

Chateau Elan, Panoz Auto Development Company, Mayfield Dairy Tuesday, October 4 — One-day bus trip.

Northeast Georgia Mountains in the Fall Tuesday, October 25 — One-day bus tour includes pottery and winery visits.

Radio City Christmas Spectacular Starring the Rockettes Wednesday, November 30, 2:00 performance at the Fox Theatre — Day trip by bus includes lunch. Call Pat Thomas at 706-543-2814 with questions.



FIRST CLASS POSTAGE