



## *President's Page: Happy New Year!*

# CLASSES NOTES

An unusual greeting to be reading in June, right? Not if one considers that the ILR fiscal year just ended and a New Year of ILR activities has begun. I am pleased to inform you that ILR ended the 2013/2014 fiscal year in a sound financial position and with a membership in excess of 770. During the past year we held over 90 classes with a total attendance of nearly 5,500. This was accomplished with a minimum of wait listing thanks to the hard work of Theo and Diane, our ODU friends for providing rooms at the VBHEC adequate for the number of attendees and the use of the auditorium at the Virginia Beach Central Library. Our Curriculum, Social and Travel Committees continue to provide numerous exciting opportunities to challenge our minds and bring us together in community. Our Annual Art Show in April showcased the talents of many of our members.

Our annual meeting was a resounding success, but not without a few minor issues that will be addressed for future events. Our guest speaker, Hope Mihalap (still not sure how to pronounce her last name), left us laughing and challenged us to laugh at ourselves and not take ourselves too seriously. Our new slate of officers was elected. I thank all of you for permitting me to stay on as your president for another year.

Our recent scholarship recipient, Mr. Polinho Katina, has completed his studies. We have begun the application process for our next scholarship award that will begin with the fall 2014 semester. At the April board meeting the board agreed to increase our scholarship award from \$6,000 to \$8,000, paid over a two year period of study. This increase was felt necessary to keep pace with the increasing cost of graduate study.

This is all good news, but good news does not come without some challenges tossed in to keep us on our toes. The increase in membership has placed a real strain on our limited paid administrative help, and we will be looking for ways to alleviate this in the coming year. Office space and classroom availability continue to be a challenge as ODU moves personnel from their main campus to the VBHEC campus. These pressures will continue to grow as more Baby Boomers retire and seek continuing educational and social opportunities, in which to spend their newly acquired free time.

Aside from our two part-time paid employees, Theo Rozdilsky and Diane Johnson, ILR is a volunteer-run organization and the help of everyone is needed if we are to continue our growth and meet the increased challenges of the future. Many currently serving on committees and on the board have done so for quite a long time, and I am certain that some would like a break. Please let the office or any member of the board know if you have the time and are willing to help ILR continue its mission. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** If there are specific programs, activities, classes or trips you would like to have offered by ILR, please bring it to the attention of a member of the appropriate committee or to a member of the board. It is our goal to grow ILR as the members desire it to grow.

The start of the New Year brings with it the need to renew our membership in ILR. Make sure to get your renewal turned in early so that you are able to participate in the wonderful classes planned for this summer. Also, please let your friends and neighbors know about ILR and the enjoyment you derive from being a part of an organization that both challenges your mind and enhances your communal life. ~~~Mike McGraw

*May you always find new roads to travel,  
new horizons to explore, new dreams to call your own.*

**Board Members, 2014-2015:**

President, Mike McGraw

Vice President, Sandy Barczak

Secretary, Mary DeLaney

Treasurer, Stan Weisberger

Historian, Carole Albero

At-Large Board Members:

Robert Chapin

Don Christensen

**Committee Chairs:**

Communications & Technology:

Robert Chapin

Curriculum:

Jane Martin

Diane Prince

Membership:

Dorothy Wolfred

Nominating:

Shirley Barco

Social:

Susan Clarke

Nancy Pond

Travel:

DeeDee Rockefeller

Volunteer:

Trude Engelund

Administrator:

Theo Rozdilsky

Interim Newsletter Editor:

Sandy Barczak

**This and That!**

- One of our members, Ian Goodwin, was a local celebrity in a televised Checkered Flag commercial. Great job, Ian.
- Marvel Mustard donated one of her poetry books to the ILR a while back and it is missing! Please check your book shelves and return it to the ILR office.
- If you attend one of our outings (social or travel) and snap some great photos, please consider donating copies to the ILR for our Historian to paste in our scrapbook.
- Remember to notify the ILR office of a new email address as well as a change in mailing address and/or telephone number. Let's keep our records up-to-date.

**In Memoriam**

Angela Ann Antonopolis Coffield

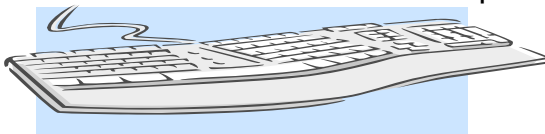
Joseph T. Towell

**Our Web Master is Retiring!**

Dave Netherton, who manages our website, is retiring. Dave has been a member of ILR since its first days, over 21 years ago. He has been our technology guru. He designed and set up our first website and our current website, [www.oduilr.com](http://www.oduilr.com). Dave needs to pass along the keyboard.

We need a volunteer to take over Dave's web duties. Those who might be interested in taking over the website can contact Dave at [Nethert@cox.net](mailto:Nethert@cox.net) or [Dnethert@odu.edu](mailto:Dnethert@odu.edu) to find out what is involved in running the website.

~~Robert Chapin



# Splinters from the Board

The purpose of this article is to give the membership greater access to the issues discussed at the meetings of the Board of Directors. Our intent is to provide short, pithy, pointed descriptions of the more important issues that came before the Board in the previous quarter that affect our members.

## **March 28, Annual Meeting**

Just over a 100 members of ILR met for the Annual Meeting on March 28th at Westminster-Canterbury. Ms. Hope Mihalap gave us a funny description of her early life in New York City and working for Sir Rudolph Bing, a notoriously controversial/cantankerous General Manager of the Metropolitan Opera Company of New York City. Besides having a good time and a delicious lunch, the main business of the meeting was to elect the Officers and Members-at-Large for the ensuing year. The following members were elected to the Board of Directors by acclamation:

Michael McGraw—President,

Sandra Barczak —Vice-President,

Mary DeLaney —Secretary,

Stan Weisberger —Treasurer,

Carole Albero —Historian,

Don Christensen —Member-at-Large,

Robert Chapin —Member-at-Large.

## **April 9 Meeting of the Board**

The Board approved a \$1,000 increase in the ILR Scholarship to \$4,000 a year and a maximum of \$8,000 over two years. The deadline for applications is the 1st of June this year.

## **May 14 Meeting of the Board**

The Board approved an operating budget for fiscal year 2014-2015 with a total operating income of \$87,700 and operating expenses of \$86,200 with a net operating income of \$1,500. With the inclusion of the interest income on our CDs and the approved \$4,000 scholarship, the net deficit is projected to be about \$2,100 for the year. The Board agreed to review the financials in January to determine if any adjustments should be made.

The Board approved a total capital expenditure of \$1,470 for the purchase of three updated Quickbooks licenses (bookkeeping software) and a laptop to be used by the Treasurer.

## ***Do you love Needlepoint!!?***

Several ILR members have expressed an interest in organizing a group of people who enjoy doing needlepoint. If you are interested in getting together to stitch, chat and share your creative side give June Lam a call: 757-481-5407, leave your name, phone number and a day of the week that will work for you. Needlepoint is a wonderful relaxing way to spend a few hours or just a few minutes of your day.



## Longwood Gardens Overnight Trip

An intrepid group of travelers set off early on April 29 headed to the Pennsylvania countryside, south of Philadelphia, for an overnight adventure. The first day our group visited Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, PA. Even the chilly weather and sporadic drizzle couldn't dampen our enthusiasm for the guided tours of the simply amazing outdoor gardens. Two hundred forty thousand flowers and plants were planted and many were in bloom. In the woodland gardens the ferns were starting to unfurl their fronds. Most of the bulbs and plants were raised on the grounds at Longwood with results that pushed the envelope to greatness. There was a rainbow of tulips, towering hollyhocks and other springtime plants and flowers to entice our senses. We saw the oldest Ginkgo tree, numerous secret gardens and many majestic fountains designed by Pierre duPont for his enjoyment and entertaining. Every tree on the property was numbered and tagged with information including type of tree, when it was purchased, and who owned the property at the time. The main room in the gigantic over-the-top Conservatory had hydrangeas in shades of blue and pink plus so many other plants, trees and hanging baskets that it was hard to take it all in. Plants and trees rose from the floor up to the high ceiling. Our guided tour continued with an introduction to other inside gardens. Even the restrooms were a destination spot opposite the longest living Green Wall. We explored many additional rooms including the Orchid House, Bonsai Room, Rose House as well as the Silver Garden. This room had an ethereal presence with a wide variety of silver leafed plants large and small. Overhead in the hallway were gigantic, chandelier baskets of huge dark pink hydrangeas.

We spent a restful night at a Best Western Plus Hotel in Concordville. On day two, it was off to the Brandywine River Museum in nearby Chadds Ford, PA. This former gristmill, on the banks of the Brandywine River, houses artwork of three generations of Wyeths (N.C., Andrew and Jamie) plus many other artists from that area. There may have been heavy rain outside, but it didn't keep any of us from thoroughly enjoying the outstanding art works. Once again we had well-versed tour guides who created an experience that was very informative and memorable.

Before leaving the area we headed back to Kennett Square, PA. Since this town is the mushroom capital of the world, we stopped to learn about all things mushroom. The Mushroom Cap, in downtown Kennett Square, is a small shop filled with fresh and dried mushrooms, mushroom pasta and a large variety of everything else related to mushrooms. We viewed a short video about growing mushrooms as well as related exhibits. Many in the group purchased some delightful items before heading back to the bus to start our return drive.

Members and guests on this trip thoroughly enjoyed themselves and all that was offered. Some of the participants were enthused about joining the Travel Committee and were most eager to offer a variety of suggestions for future trips. Thanks for joining us on this overnight adventure. We look forward to you signing up for our next outing.

~~Betsy Blank, Travel Committee Member

## Annual Art Show

Another wonderful ILR Art Show has come to a close. The 7th Annual Art Show showcased the works of our own ILR members. This year the show included many different mediums including oils, pastels, pencil drawings, batiks, needlepoint and a wooden boat. The art was on display for approximately 1 month in the atrium of the Virginia Beach Higher Education Center.

The opening reception was catered by our new Waves Café. The food and fellowship was wonderful and the art impressive. We will have to wait another year to view the talent of these artists again. Remember the art show is open to all members—so start creating for our next show.

Thanks to all the talented artists who participated this year.

What a great show!



## Coffee and Conversation

If you are a new member of ILR, you might not know about our quarterly party called *Coffee and Conversation*. *Coffee and Conversation* is literally a free lunch, usually scheduled between two large classes or between a morning class and a Board meeting. It is a moveable feast so check the Quarterly Class Schedule (July 9th). The party is a great opportunity to meet other ILR members, to ask questions about ILR, and to raise questions and concerns with a member of the Board. For the record, as of the 14th of May, we have 254 new members this year.

## Quarterly Class Schedule On-line

The Quarterly Schedule is a smaller version of the Big Bang. Before the schedule comes out, there is a void, nothing is happening. After the schedule is published, we have cosmic expansion, faster than the speed of light, and we have created the universe for the next quarter. There are two versions: paper and digital. In order to level the playing field, the office deliberately waits a few days before putting the schedule on the ILR website: [www.oduilr.com](http://www.oduilr.com) so that those using snail mail have a chance to sign up for classes and events. You will find the link to the schedule on the left side of the home webpage. Click on the link, print out the sign-up sheet, fill it in and send it in to the office with your check and you're done. In the future, the office will send out an email announcing the schedule on the website as we do for Class Notes to those for whom we have their email addresses.

~~Robert Chapin

## Kayak Adventures through the Years!

This is our **10th** year of kayaking the waters of Tidewater Virginia. Our first trip was in the fall of 2003 and there has been a spring and fall trip every year since. We have traveled the Rocaty River and Milldam Creek a couple of times. In the early years we often put in from the private property of friendly farmers. The City has done a lot with recreational kayak/canoe launch areas during these ten years. The Bayside History Trail with the goal of the Ferry Plantation House for lunch and a Grace Sherwood lecture was quite a paddle that we began at the new Lesner Bridge public put in. We've paddled across the city of Virginia Beach with a multi-put in approach. This also means we have visited many a small general store close by. We did a Lake Drummond tour in October of 2004 that was quite a drive to and from but worth it. We have made it all the way to Munden Park. We have discovered that when the wind is against you, paddling forward can be a real challenge! We have met lots of birds, turtles, a few curious snakes, and listened to the loud vocalizations of peacocks who yard guard in deep Back Bay. One time we had two trips going in a.m. and p.m. with lunch at Margie and Ray's and

put in at the Lotus Pond. That was a beautiful day.

WildRiver Outfitters have been our guides and friends for these trips. They help us into, but most importantly, out of the kayaks with all types of put in conditions. We have discovered that Stumpy Lake has a state of the art kayak/canoe docking area and a really nice restaurant right there. And we can assure everyone that a little rain will not cause you to melt! For a while it seemed our fall trips foretold hurricane arrivals to our shores. It actually got to be a joke.

Yes, the ILR kayaking experiences have been a positive adventure for those who participated. We hope you will be able to join in the fun sometime.

~~Judy Schooley



### **NEWCOMERS**

**We hope you will participate in our classes and volunteer your time and talent.**

February 15, 2014—May 16, 2014

**Chesapeake:** Laura Hodges, Maryann Miller, Dr. Tom & Joan Rothrauff.

**Norfolk:** Gail Butler, David Hamby, Linda Levy, Caroline Shapero & Frederic Sukoff, and Anne Traylor.

**Portsmouth:** Mary Butler and Daniel Fleming.

**Suffolk:** Barbara Cooper and Stephanie Smith.

**Virginia Beach:** Sharon Adams, Rona Berk, Gary Bowers, John & Joyce Clarke, Jean Dothard, Diane Everett, Boone Ferrebee, Irene Goodman, Sonia Guerra, Earline Keyser, Karen Krabill, Elaine Levenson, Paricia Litz, Jean Mann, Gay Mudrick, Karen Murphy, Louise Palamara, John Parker, William Price, Susie Rice, Carolyn Schmick, Joan Uhlar, James Williams, and Andrea Zarge.