



President's Corner

2012 Annual Meeting Report

The ILR Annual Meeting held in March was a great event celebrating 19 years of providing learning opportunities and social experiences to retirees in our area. Thank you, Social Committee, for the planning and hard work to ensure another top-notch occasion. And thanks to the other committees for their excellent work throughout the year, leading up to this celebration. The chairs of each committee and their committee members were recognized for their valuable contributions.

The state of the ILR is good. We have a set of devoted people who serve us well across all areas of our operation. All the committees are very active, and most productive in ways beneficial to the goals of ILR. Membership remains high (>600 members). The financial situation is solid, allowing us to continue offering a wide variety of experiences while maintaining low costs. Our relationship with ODU continues to be beneficial to both organizations.

The business portion of the meeting included adoption of a new committee and the annual election of officers. The Communication and Technology Committee was adopted as our seventh committee. Key benefits expected include improved communications with the membership, such as the newsletter, and improved operations resulting from updated software and computer technologies. The election of officers brought in new personnel for two offices: Robert Chapin as Treasurer and Robert Burns as Member at Large. It is noted that Dave Jackson served ILR with an outstanding job as Treasurer for several years.

D. D. Delaney, local poet, actor, and playwright, was our guest speaker this year. His presentation, entitled "Living Life Day-to-Day, An Alarming Idea?" offered insight into questions of life that arise for all people at all ages. Evidently answers to the question of "what do I want to be when I grow up" are still being sought, even among our retiree community.

Again, thank you, Social Committee, for another memorable annual meeting. The atmosphere and service of Westminster Canterbury provided a great setting. The smooth operation from beginning to end attests to the planning and hard work of the many workers of the committee. The awarding of the flowers from each table was a fitting close to a fun day.

~~ Dave Patterson

Upcoming Events

July 4	Independence Day
Sept 3	Labor Day
Sept 17	Rosh Hashanah
Sept 22	1st day of Fall
Sept 25-26	Yom Kippur
Oct 8	Columbus Day
Oct 31	Halloween

Important:

Report address changes to the ILR office as soon as possible of a new email address or change in mailing address to help keep our records up-to-date.

Board Members 2012-2013:

President, Dave Patterson
Vice President, Mike McGraw
Secretary, Mary DeLaney
Treasurer, Robert Chapin
Historian, Carole Albero
Past President, Robert Chapin
At-large Board Members:
Robert Burns
John Ingram

Committee Chairs:

Curriculum:

Anne Blanchard
Judy Schooley

Membership:

Dorothy Wolfred

Nominating:

Sandy Barczak

Social:

Susan Clarke
Nancy Pond

Travel:

DeeDee Rockefeller

Volunteer:

Trude Engelund

Administrator:

Theo Rozdilsky

Interim Newsletter Editor:

Sandy Barczak



Humor Corner

Now that I'm retired, I find that nothing is ever fixed except my income.

~~ Unknown

ILR Scholarship

The founding principles and mission of ILR are to foster the interest of members in continuing education, promote quality and diverse programs for its members, to provide opportunities for members with common interests to follow those interests, and to encourage member participation in study, discussion, and social activities. With this emphasis on providing educational opportunities, it is perfectly logical for ILR to establish a graduate scholarship for studies at Old Dominion University.

The scholarship's intent is to help a person achieve a graduate or professional degree (Master or Doctor Equivalent), in any discipline or field of study, who might not otherwise be able to do so because of a lack of sufficient financial resources and to assist the recipient achieve a greater potential usefulness to society. This scholarship also acknowledges ODU's continued support of ILR. The scholarship is open to all who meet the "criteria for scholarship" as established by ILR and ODU. The scholarship pays \$1,500 per semester for four semesters and there will be only one ILR Scholarship active at any one time.

The initial scholarship was awarded in 2009, a second scholarship was awarded in late 2010. The Scholarship Committee is currently reviewing three applications that have been received for the third scholarship award, to take effect for the fall semester 2012.

~~Mike McGraw

Help! I'm in trouble!

I am truly sorry so many ILR members missed this excellent presentation by three supervisors of the Virginia Beach Fire Department. Most of what they addressed was good basic information for all of our Tidewater cities.

Emergency Response can be simple or very complicated but it is great to know our folks are trained and ready for our 911 call. I bet many of you wonder why an ambulance and a fire truck often both respond. Well if you had been at the class you would now understand the logic behind that response. It has nothing to do with inflating any numbers and lots to do with saving lives.

What is US and R? Why are there different types of "fire trucks"? Is this one area where our neighboring cities actually work together and if so how? This class was so informative that the "entire student body" agreed we needed to offer it again next year and get our fellow ILR members into the classroom.

And finally we did get some of the best F18 crash response coverage by the guys who were actually in charge of putting it all together. Say "carbon fibers" and don't breathe too deeply. The ERT has your back. You need to understand what is going on so you can be part of a good outcome not an additional problem.

Watch the course schedule for a repeat next winter!

~~Judy Schooley

The Early Years of the ILR . . .

The kernel of an idea for an ILR started in the mind of Dean Steve Greiner, then the acting Dean of the Darden College of Education at Old Dominion University. Dean Greiner had heard of a program called an "Institute of Learning in Retirement" for people who were retired but interested in continued learning. The program was sponsored by the Elderhostel Institute Network (EIN). He sent Toby Netherton, Old Dominion University's Elderhostel Coordinator, to a regional conference hosted by a Learning in Retirement group at Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama. That was in 1992.

After two days, Toby came back to ODU excited about the possibility of starting an Institute for Learning in Retirement at ODU. She contacted the EIN and asked them to send her a list of addresses of everyone who had applied for information about Elderhostel from the zip codes in Hampton Roads. She got over 100. A letter was prepared inviting the people on the list to an information meeting. Thirteen showed up at this first organizational meeting held at the Virginia Beach Higher Education Center, then located on the corner of Virginia Beach Blvd. and Little Neck Road.

Dean Greiner and Toby were prepared for this first meeting. They had placed large butcher board sheets of paper on the wall of the meeting room, one for each committee that was needed for the new ILR. Then they explained what an ILR was and how it should operate. They stressed that it was a member organization that made its own decisions on what classes to offer, what to charge, and what to pay instructors.

Then they jokingly told the attendees that no one could leave the room until they had all signed up for a committee. It is hard to believe now, but Toby says she and Dean Greiner's mouths dropped open when everyone signed up for a committee, and each committee appointed a chairman. In one meeting they had a thirteen-member strong ILR. It was agreed that they would be a membership organization, totally run by the members. Tuition and membership fees would pay all costs. They would keep the fees low and use volunteers to do all the work.

Thus they started. The curriculum committee met with Toby and they planned their first schedule of classes. These were based on tried and true classes that had been offered through the Elderhostel Program. Dixie Johnson, who later became the group's membership and promotions chairperson, was a member of the pilot group. They offered three courses that first summer. Dixie took one called 'Pirates and Patriots,' about the history of Colonial Tidewater. She said, "It was fascinating. Everyone who took a course was

polled to see if they wanted to continue." Johnson added, "They did."

Emileigh Latham was the first ILR president. Typical of the first group of members, she was a retired professional, a former reporter, editor and public relations specialist. She said she joined the ILR for ". . . intellectual stimulation and companionship." Within three years, advertised only by word-of-mouth, the program had grown to 300 members.

From the beginning, the ILR tried to offer classes on the ODU campus, and elsewhere in the city of Norfolk, to accommodate members who lived there. But this proved unsuccessful for a variety of reasons. Parking was very limited on campus as was appropriate classroom space during daytime hours when members preferred to attend their classes. Also, few Virginia Beach members would travel to Norfolk for the classes.

Tired of trying to balance the requirements of the heavy traveling schedule imposed by the Elderhostel program, Toby left her job as Elderhostel Coordinator and began working from her home as a non-paid coordinator for the ILR. In 1996, Toby was interviewed for an article in the Beacon, and within a few weeks the membership jumped to 500 members.

Not long after that, Toby turned over the administrator's duties to Catherine O'Reilly, a newly hired paid part-time ILR administrator, and an office was opened in Pembroke Office Center 4. Later when ILR President Dr. John Fahey used his connections with the ODU Provost's Office, the ILR was able to secure office space in the present site at the Virginia Beach Higher Education Center.

By its tenth anniversary in 2003, the institute was offering an average of 25 courses each quarter at the Virginia Beach Higher Education Center. As today, the classes were advertised in a class schedule with registration form that was mailed to members. The class format was usually two-hour, single-session or four-hour, two-session, and the cost was \$5 per hour, which was in addition to the ILR annual dues of \$15 (\$25 per couple). Classes ranged in size from 10 to 48 students. Faculty were paid a modest \$25 per hour.

So, in a matter of ten years the ILR grew from thirteen members to 500 members. It began offering three classes per quarter, and in ten years it was offering at least 25 classes per quarter. But while its size has grown significantly, the ILR continues to hold to its founding guidelines of being a self-governing membership organization that offers non-credit college-level classes for individuals 55 and older. The members continue to decide what classes to offer, what instructors to hire, and what fees to charge. It continues to be a winning formula.

~~ Dave Netherton

Where Did the ILR Come From?

Like many human endeavors, there is no simple answer. The present-day ILR is the result of the intersection, but not the merging, of two inspirations. In chronological order, the first inspiration occurred in New York City when a group of retired public high school teachers sought ways to expand their educational opportunities. Under the aegis of the New School for Social Research in New York City, the group founded the first ILR, known as the Institute for Retired Professionals in 1962. Within a year, the IRP had 200 members and a long waiting list. The IRP was a self-governing group who designed and managed their own course offerings, providing faculty from within their ranks. The IRP is still going strong with 270 members and a waiting list. Despite its success, the IRP model spread slowly, mostly to Ivy League and a few major state universities. Twenty years later, there were about 50 ILRs around the country, mostly on the coasts.

The other inspiration that intersected with the IRP/ILR concept started in 1975 when the University of New Hampshire started a residential summer program for seniors. This beginning became what many of us still refer to as Elderhostel (now renamed Road Scholar). Under the leadership of its first and long-time President, Bill Berkeley, Elderhostel spread like wildfire. Ten years after its founding, Elderhostel had expanded around the world to 950 sites and sending catalogs to 500,000 members. Bill Berkeley, traveling around the country, came across a number of ILRs and was convinced that there could be a synergy between Elderhostel and the ILRs.

The intersection occurred in 1988 when Elderhostel established the Elderhostel Institute Network, EIN. The Elderhostel dedicated a portion of its website to the EIN where members of the network could find sample budgets, business plans, start-up materials and a forum for ILR members to exchange ideas about what worked and what didn't work. Five years later, the EIN had grown to 100 member ILRs. By 1997, the year Bill Berkeley retired, the number of affiliates had grown to 200 and ILRs were being created at the rate of about 25 a year. Additional services were added to help the

maturing ILRs: regional conferences, study travel programs, a newsletter, and an annual survey and a directory. Topics of discussion were evolving from —start-up questions to membership growth, managing space limitations, and differences between younger and older members.

Because of a downward trend in dues-paying members of the EIN and the self-sustaining character of the ILRs, the dues were dropped and the EIN became a “virtual” network with no dedicated staff. The EIN is now supported by Road Scholar out of its pocket with part-time staffers that maintain the website, gratis to any ILR that wants to join. The input to the EIN now comes from the ILR members.

At the beginning of this article, I made the point that there was an intersection, not a merger. Road Scholar continues to support the EIN and to pursue its own multinational programs and the ILRs continue to be the masters of their own fates. ILRs, now referred to more frequently as Lifelong Learning Institutes (LLIs), have retained their original character: member owned and directed local organizations that design their own programs to meet their own needs. Road Scholar continues to be a highly centralized organization that provides residential programs around the world to meet regional and national needs of its customers. There are many different LLI business models, different relationships with sponsoring organizations, and different programs but each manages its own programs for its own members. There are now about 500 members of the EIN and about a total of 1000 senior learning organizations around the country.

The LLI movement is not confined to this country; there are LLIs around the world tied loosely together by an organization called the World University of the Third Age. China claims that they have 13,000 LLIs. As members of ODU-ILR, you are part of a multifaceted movement that circles the globe providing educational, social, and entertainment opportunities to seniors.

~~Robert Chapin

ODU's Contribution to ILR's Success

From the very beginning, ODU has had a major role in ILR's affairs. While the relationship has occasionally been marked by tension and controversy, ODU has been a major factor in our success. The basis of the current relationship is contained in a Memorandum of Understanding between ODU and ILR. The present MOU, signed in early 2011 with an expiration date of December 31, 2020, is a contract between us and the university that sets out specific actions that each of us undertakes to support the relationship. By any measure, ILR gets more than we give.

The MOU specifies that ODU will provide classrooms, as available, for ILR activities at the "Internal Rate." ODU charges us a whopping \$25 for a two-hour class in room 133. The support includes the use of the audio-visual equipment and the assistance of the technical staff when we need it. While the ILR office is not overly commodious, ODU provides that space and the utilities, maintenance and cleaning service free of charge. In addition, ODU provides mail services, fax services, photocopying services, and office supplies at cost.

Legally speaking, our Administrator, Theo Rozdilsky, and our Bookkeeper, Diane Johnson, are part-time employees of the University and therefore are employees of the Commonwealth of Virginia. While Theo reports to the President of ILR, she is also supervised by the ODU-Virginia Beach Operations Coordinator. ODU pays Theo's and Diane's salaries and payroll taxes; we reimburse the University. The University's support includes all of the services of a professional human

resources staff. These services save ILR hundreds of dollars a year in expenses that would ultimately come out of our pockets.

Although the MOU does not address the issue, for years, ODU has provided space on one of its servers for our website free of charge. Another free service is access to the University's truly expert technical staff that keeps our computer running.

In recognition of ODU's support, ILR a few years ago gave to the University the sculpture and plinth that now grace the atrium in the Virginia Beach Higher Education Center. We also established a scholarship for ODU graduate students to the tune of \$3,000 a year. These gestures are recognition of ODU's contributions to our success.

~~Robert Chapin



Reminders ...

Crisfield, Maryland trip "Crabs, Cakes & Cruise"

Monday, September 10, 2012

Pot Luck Dinner at June Lam's Home

Friday, September 14, 2012