



Old Dominion University

Institute for Learning in Retirement

1881 University Drive, VA Beach VA

Winter 2011

Volume 1, Issue 2

C L A S S N O T E S

President's Corner:

The ILR is a vibrant organization due to the many hard working volunteers who initiate and oversee activities across a broad spectrum of learning. We always need more volunteers. You are encouraged to contribute. This may be done at several levels of time and energy.

A good starting point is to share your ideas with the chairs of the committee appropriate to your idea. Participation in the work of a committee is the next level. Finally, you can serve on the ILR Board of Directors, comprised of the ILR officers, committee chairs, and at-large member of the Board.

For contact information for committee chairs call the administrator at 368-4160.

~~ Dave Patterson

What an Opportunity!

Are you getting the most return for your ILR dollars? ILR membership allows us to go to lively classes, visit local enterprises, take trips to nearby attractions, and party. The choices are ours and we each create our own ILR experiences. A few of us have discovered a fifth opportunity for growth: working to make all this happen. Sixty of us put together the programs that we enjoy. Some of us write, some schedule, some look for and bring lecturers to our classrooms, some keep the books, and some of us manage the whole process. Like the rest of ILR, volunteering enriches our lives. This issue of Class Notes focuses on volunteering at ILR.

Volunteers are the foundation of ILR. We always need new ideas and new perspectives. We need an Editor for the newsletter, a Vice-President, a Treasurer, a Member-at Large, and a Nominating Committee Chairperson. We need new members on all of our committees. Read all pages to learn more.

~~ Robert Chapin

Membership Report

At the end of October 2011 our total membership was 571, 485 members renewed and 86 brand new members joined. Don't forget to send in your renewal if you haven't done so for the 2011-2012 year.

We need you!!!!

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.



Potluck Dinner

As a "newbie" this was my 1st potluck dinner. I had baked my covered dish to share and was ready to enjoy an evening with retirees like me. About thirty minutes before my departure the skies opened up - thunder, and torrential rain falling (at times) sideways. At 5:05 pm I decided it had let up enough to depart.

I found my way to June Lam's lovely home where most people had already arrived and were enjoying each other's company. The food was delicious -

lots of different dishes to try and explore. I met some brand new folks and some seasoned members.

When I left to drive home I realized the ride to June's house was well worth the social aspects of my event: delicious food, fun conversations and exploring Virginia Beach. It reminded me of that old saying, "It's all in a day's work!"

~~ Sandy Barczak

Important dates on December calendar:

2nd— Cape Charles trip
20th — Hanukkah Begins
22nd— First Day of Winter
25th— Christmas Day
31st— New Year's Eve

Visit our new web page at:

www.oduilr.com

Deadline for the next

Newsletter —

February 15, 2012.



An Afternoon on Linkhorn Bay

Sixteen stalwart members of ILR launched their rented kayaks just north of the expressway where it crosses over the "headwaters" of Linkhorn Bay on a cloudy, September afternoon. Four guides from Wild River Outfitters had fitted us all with life vests, given a thorough briefing of the planned trip, and helped us with our creaking knees get into our boats. The City had thoughtfully left a small launching site when I-264 replaced the old Virginia Beach Expressway where a bridge had once carried the old road

across Linkhorn Bay. We headed north down the bay, under Laskin Road and past reedy marshes, egrets, and manicured lawns with larger and larger houses. As we paddled, the views opened up and so, briefly, did the clouds. We were treated to a cooling shower or two and then patches of blue appeared. The guides, who carried extra water for those who might be thirsty, showed us the way, pointed out landmarks, wildlife, and answered our questions.

After about an hour and a half of intermittent paddling, somewhere short of the entrance to Crystal Lake, we turned around and headed for home. At almost exactly the same spot as before, the clouds let go a few drops to remind us of their potential for mischief and then let us go unmolested. The F/A-18 Hornets roaring on final approach to Oceana reminded us that there were other concerns that might be more

pressing than being rained on during an otherwise idyllic afternoon. We pulled out where we had launched, left the life vests behind and drove home at approximately 30 times the speed of the afternoon.

The launch and the pullout are transitions between alternate universes. In one universe, we floated along at 2 mph with a height of eye about two feet, savoring the remaining bits of the world that existed before Homo sapiens. In the other universe, we enjoyed the world created by our species, often oblivious to the first universe. In the world of quantum computing, there is a raging debate about the existence of multiple, parallel universes. While not germane to that esoteric debate, we experienced, briefly, a parallel universe of sky and water, rain and breeze, birds and reeds, and the honest exertion of moving ourselves at the speed of a fast turtle through the gifts of nature.

~~ Robert Chapin



Travel Junction

The Travel Committee is a small group of volunteers who get together to plan where and when the ILR will go on our upcoming trips. This year your wanderlust will be tested by boats, birds, mansions, marines, fish and some really special surprises. I am always pleased that our members are so well versed in the areas they are presenting for travel by our members.

So if you volunteer for this committee what would you do? We meet four (4) times a year to critique the last trip we led and firm up plans for the next trip. We only offer 4 trips a year so

this is not a time-consuming job. This commitment does not cut into other activities (i.e., playing bridge, grandchildren; shopping and personal travel times), it is low key and stress free. Much of the work we do is fun to plan and carry out. We want to make this a learning experience for all concerned.

If you feel that you could help us for a few hours once in a while, we would love to have you come and play with us. Feel free to drop me an e-mail at deniserocler@cox.net if you might be interested in offering some ideas for trips and/or helping with them. We would like to have you at our next meeting to quell your fears of taking up all of your time.

~~ DeeDee Rockefeller

Volunteer Coordinator's Responsibility

The Volunteer Coordinator's job involves coordinating help for the administrator's office. One regular activity is to process quarterly ILR mailings to members. A team of 4-6 volunteers meet to staple, stuff and label envelopes before they are sent to the post office.

Also, if assistance is needed in the ILR office during our administrator's absence, volunteers are called upon to answer the phone and take messages.

Neither of these assignments require a lot of time or training, but they are important in the operation of the ILR and we welcome new volunteers to assist us.

To volunteer call Trude at 460-5215 or email her at trudee1@verizon.net.



Social Committee Responsibilities

The Social Committee works to have an enjoyable and active social agenda for our ILR members. Committee members focus on planning and coordinating one major activity per year. We also assist with March Annual Meeting and Lunch, assist with home parties and potluck dinners, welcome new members to all events and encourage new members to join a committee or

volunteer in our organization. Social Committee members are expected to attend committee meetings and work on our projects.

We welcome members to volunteer to work on this committee. To assist new committee members we always assign them to work with a seasoned member.

~~ Carol Smythers



Save the Date:

**Friday, March 30, 2012
Annual Luncheon &
Business Meeting
Westminster
Canterbury - Virginia
Beach**

**Time to enjoy a great
lunch, meet ILR
members,
learn what the ILR is
doing and hear a great
speaker.**

Board Members 2011-2012:

President, Dave Patterson
Vice President, Mike McGraw
Secretary, Mary Delaney
Treasurer, Dave Jackson
Historian, Dale Harrell
Past President, Robert Chapin
At-large Board Members:
Sandy Barczak
John Ingram

Committee Chairs:

Curriculum:
Anne Blanchard
Judy Schooley
Membership:
Dorothy Wolfred
Nominating:
Vacant
Social:
Susan Clarke
Carol Smythers
Travel:
DeeDee Rockefeller
Volunteer:
Trude Englund
Administrator:
Theo Rozdilsky
Interim Newsletter Editor:
Sandy Barczak



MAKE A GREAT DECISION

This morning, I witnessed a phenomenon that I have seen often in an ILR classroom: the students surprised the instructor. The instructor expected maybe six students, but there were 60 in the room. Contrary to the Instructor's experience, many of us, perhaps most of us, knew who Ralph Bunche was and what he had accomplished. We had been observers or participants in many of the events the lecturer discussed that have shaped our responses to world events over the last half century. The topic of the class was foreign policy, which leads us to Great Decisions. Great Decisions is one of the "specialized" classes that ILR sponsors. Others in this select list are Great Books and the ILR Book Group. The distinguishing feature of these classes is that they are discussion groups rather than lectures. We share our varied experiences and our ideas about the topic at hand.

Great Decisions is a program of eight current foreign policy topics selected by the Foreign Policy Association. The Association publishes a magazine style book with eight or more

articles on the selected topics written by knowledgeable foreign policy analysts. To aid the discussion, the Association includes questions and issues for each topic. This is where we start but soon we develop our own agenda and ideas. This year, the Association has selected these topics: Middle East Realignment, Promoting Democracy, Mexico, Cyber Security, Exit from Iraq & Afghanistan, State of the Oceans, Indonesia, and Energy Geopolitics.

The ILR Great Decisions group will start up again the first Wednesday morning in February, 2012. We meet once a month thereafter for the next seven months, usually on the first Wednesday of the month unless there is a holiday or other major conflict. The fee of \$50 covers the book and the eight sessions. ILR orders the books for the class in order to get a group discount and the pre-order discount. We start pulling ourselves together in early December so that we can order before the end of the month. The author of this newsletter article is the self-styled "Interim Administrator." If you want to know more about Great Decisions or how we conduct the sessions, please give me, Robert Chapin, a call at 495-1899 or email me at k4ybz@verizon.net. Even if we have ordered the books, it is never too late. The FPA website address is fpa.org and the Great Decisions website address is fpa.org/great_decisions/.

~~ Robert Chapin



Humor Corner

Age is important only if you're wine or cheese.

~~ Unknown