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Institute for Learning in Retirement

1881 University Drive, VA Beach VA

Spring 2014

Volume II, Issue 3

President's Corner: Upcoming Events

I trust everyone was able to successfully cope with Mother Nature's attacks in late January and early February. The snow really created some problems for our classes (among other things) that required last-minute cancellations and rescheduling. This may have been an inconvenience for some of you, but we did not want anyone being at risk on the snow-covered streets of Virginia Beach. The Board is reviewing ILR's inclement weather policy to determine if it is adequate or in need of change and you will be advised of the outcome of these discussions just as soon as a decision is reached.

Believe me, spring is just around the corner and with it comes two important events in the ILR year. First, on March 28, we will hold our annual members' luncheon and business meeting where we will enjoy a delicious meal, great fellowship, a fabulous speaker, and elect new officers for the coming year. By the time you read this you will have received more information on the luncheon, and I hope that you will make plans to attend and be a part of this important affair. Second, from April 22 through May 15 we will hold the annual ILR Art Show at the Virginia Beach Higher Education Center. This affords an opportunity for our many talented members (and there are so many) to showcase those talents for all to enjoy. Start preparing now so that you will be ready to display your artwork in this show. More information on this event is included in this newsletter.

ILR remains in excellent shape from both a financial as well as a participation perspective. Membership has risen to over

730 and class enrollments continue to grow each quarter. We have had several classes recently with well over 100 enrollees each. Kudos to the Curriculum, Social and Travel Committees for the work they put forth to provide all the wonderful programs that entertain, enlighten, and challenge us. If you are interested in helping out on one of these committees or with some other work to help grow and improve our organization, please let the office or one of the Board members know. Opportunities abound so everyone's participation is welcomed, needed, and appreciated. Remember, we are a totally volunteer led and driven organization.

Our current scholarship recipient, Mr. Polinho Katina, is on track to receive his degree this May, having successfully passed comprehensive examinations in December. He recently was selected to edit an engineering textbook entitled, Infranomics: Sustainability, Engineering Design and Governance, with renowned scientists Prof. Dr. Adrian V. Gheorghe and Prof. Marcelo Masera. Mr. Katina plans to attend our annual luncheon and meeting so we will all have the opportunity to congratulate him on his accomplishments and wish him well on his future endeavors. We will begin the process of reviewing applications and selecting the next ILR scholarship recipient sometime in the early summer. We can all take pride in knowing that our scholarship awards help young women and men achieve their dreams.

I look forward to seeing you at our annual meeting on March 28 at Westminster - Canterbury.

~~Mike McGraw



Board Members 2014-2015:

President, Mike McGraw

Vice President, Sandy Barczak

Secretary, Mary DeLaney

Treasurer, Robert Chapin

Historian, Carole Albero

Past President, Dave Patterson

At-large Board Members:

Robert Burns

Donald 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

History of the 7th Annual ILR Art Show



New members of the ILR may be unfamiliar with the Annual ILR Art Show. It is an exhibition of work by members of the ILR. Anyone who belongs to our organization is welcome to participate. Any medium is acceptable, but we stipulate the design of the piece must be the artist's original work. Copies of other artists' work is not acceptable. In the past we have had paintings, drawings, batiks, sculptures, collages, wall hangings, etc. Another stipulation is that the work has not been shown in a previous ILR show. Members may choose to sell their work or not. There is no jury, it is simply an exhibition that shows the many talents of our members.

ODU is our partner in this endeavor and hosts the artists' reception. This year's dates are as follows:

Hanging of show: April 21...11am-1pm

Reception: April 22...4:30 pm -6:30 pm
 Take down: May 16....9am-12:00 pm

Applications for entry must be in the office by April1.

We hope to see artists from previous shows and look forward to our new members joining us in displaying their work.

~~ Daisy Smith

NEWCOMERS

November 7, 2013—February 14, 2014

Chesapeake: Barbara Carlson, Kathleen Hanson, Walton & Diane Hooks, and Joyce Stukey.

Norfolk: Lewis & Glenda Greenhouse.

Virginia Beach: Jody Danielson, Stanwood & Harriet Dickman, Linda Dietrich, John & Pam Everett, Patty Hood, Eileen Kelley, Josephine Kwak, Jim & Judy Laster, Nancy McWilliams, Janet Menia, Notye Mobley-Strong, Mary Moran, Bill Seeley, Kris Stringer, Diana Tressler and Bill & Nancy Wood.

Who is Dr. Roshan Talreja?

Dr. Roshan Talreja is one of ILR's repeat speakers, always willing to share his current interest. Since his retirement from the practice of medicine in 2009, he has pursued his passion, philosophy. Since about 2000, his lectures at ILR have focused on the art of thinking, on inner dialogue, and on public philosophy.

Born in New Delhi, India, in 1945 to a well-to-do movie producer, he was one of five children, encouraged by their father to "Do in life that which pleases you." To that end, Roshan Talreja completed his high school education, which was greatly influenced by British precepts, in New Delhi. He had known since the age of 8 or 9 that he wanted to study medicine. His undergraduate degree was earned at Cambridge and he then returned to New Delhi for medical school. Subsequent specialty training was accomplished in Cleveland, Ohio.

Clearly, he is in a position to discuss with us both Eastern and Western ways of thinking, focusing on individual philosophical growth. To that end, he proposes to initiate a "Socrates Club," to begin in the summer session, 2014, in which he will approach "Thinking about Thinking." To maintain a certain amount of intimacy, the class will be limited and will meet once a month. It will not be necessary to attend all classes. Socrates walked the streets and talked to the populace. Dr. Talreja contentedly spends his time and energy with his four young grandchildren and thinking. He says, "I know where you go when you die - you put your soul into their souls for they feel only love"

He and Elfie, his RN wife and office manager, bring a rich heritage to Virginia Beach. Their son, Dr. Depak Talreja is a cardiologist, married to Dr. Hyeon Choi, pediatrician; their daughter, Dr. Reena Talreja, gynecologist, is married to George Pelaez, DDS. The four young grandchildren spend many of their parents' working days with their grandparents and benefit, no doubt, from the broad East-West philosophies of Dr. & Mrs. Talreja.

~~June Lam



Annual Luncheon and Meeting

Friday, March 28th-11:30 am

Westminster-Canterbury

3100 Shore Dr., Virginia Beach

See the biographies of officers on our website, at the Annual Meeting or pick up a copy in the office.

Join us at the enlightening and very informative event.

KUDOS CORNER

Faye Feldman has been a long-time member of the ILR (18 years) and has enjoyed the classes, activities, etc. so much during this time, that she has made a generous donation to the ILR for us to use for whatever we deem necessary. Many thanks to Faye for being so giving and considerate.

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.

December 11 Meeting of the Board

The President reported that a member of ILR had donated \$500 to ILR. Two corporations that the member had been associated with would make matching contributions in the next few months that would bring the total contribution to \$1,500. This and future donations to ILR would be accounted for as a separate line item on the ILR balance sheet. (Comment: The Board is very grateful for this generous contribution. Donations to ILR are tax deductible.)

Curriculum reported that the Committee had scheduled a class in April on Andrew Wyeth before the trip scheduled to the Longwood Gardens & Wyeth Museum starting April 29th.

The Board reviewed the financial reports against the budget and determined that the Board would not change the Membership fees for next fiscal year or make any changes to the operating budget for this year. The Treasurer was tasked to discuss ways to reduce printing and mailing costs at the next meeting.

January 8, 2014 Meeting of the Board

Curriculum reported that three classes have over 100 members attending.

The Board authorized the Chairs of the Social and Travel Committees to make appropriate donations to publicly supported organizations visited by ILR groups. Such donations would be rolled into the price of the event. (The Board amended the motion during the February meeting.)

The Treasurer requested that the discussion of reducing mailing and printing costs for the quarterly scheduled be deferred to the February meeting as Old Business. The Board took up an inquiry from a member that asked if an unused class fee could be donated to ILR as a tax-

deductible contribution. After much discussion, the Board decided that accepting unused fees as donations was not in the best interests of ILR. Some of the reasons for turning down the idea were the administrative costs of tracking and reporting the "donations," the possible deleterious effect on class attendance, and the possibility of running afoul of federal and state tax regulations.

February 12 Meeting of the Board

Membership reported that we now have 178 new members since the 1st of June and a grand total of 731 members. This number is a new record for ILR and we still have three and a half months to the end of our year!

The Treasurer announced that Joan Patterson has agreed to join the Treasurer's Working Group. The issue of mailing and printing costs was not discussed.

The Board took up the subject of how ILR might extend ILR classes to those that could not attend a class. Rachel Crockett, a member of the ODU VBHEC technical staff, invited to the meeting by Don Christensen, Member-at-Large, discussed alternative technical solutions to recording and providing a class lecture to our members. After a lively discussion of possible issues, the matter was referred to the Communications and Technical Committee. The CTC was requested to bring back to the Board a set of policy, financial, and technical recommendations that address the issue raised by Don Christensen at the November meeting. (See accompanying article for more discussion of this topic.)

The Board amended the prior motion passed during the January meeting concerning the authority of the Travel and Social Chairs to make donations to other organizations. The words restricting the authority of the Chairs to plan and to include the donation in the cost of the event were struck from the motion. The intention of the Board is to allow the Chairs to use their discretion to make an appropriate donation to publicly-supported organizations while settling the accounts with the provider. ILR has made such contributions in the past.

~~Robert Chapin

"Extending" the ILR Classroom

Don Christensen, one of our Members-at-Large, raised the question during the November meeting of the Board of how we might provide access to ILR classes to those who could not or did not attend a class. Rachel Crockett, the ODU Systems Engineer that always helps us out with the classroom equipment, described three alternatives with variations that could be useful.

The most comprehensive alternative involves using one of ODU's "wired classrooms" that records a video of the instructor and the materials presented to the class. The technology could be expended to support phone calls from outside the classroom for questions. The video could be stored for playback on demand. Most of the technology required to support this capability is in place but perhaps it's not what we need.

The least functional alternative might be an audio-only teleconference system set up for ILR members. The audio could be stored and available for playback on demand.

A middle alternative, and perhaps the most costeffective technology, is a system that ODU has developed called "course capture." This system, installed in two regular classrooms at the VBHEC, captures the audio and the materials projected through the computer. Currently, only the ODU faculty has access to the recorded materials after overnight processing.

After a spirited question and answer period, there were more questions on the table than answers. The Board assigned the task of coming up with answers to the Communications and Technology Committee (CTC). One way to look at this task is as a design task with vaguely defined parameters. As is often the case, many of the issues are intertwined in ways that answers to one question affects the answers to other questions.

For example: to whom should we provide such a capability? Wait-listed members for a course, sick members and those with restricted-mobility, those that want to see the course after the fact, members who did not pay for the course? Should we charge extra for viewing the course and to whom? Wait-listed members, sick and other members, those who paid but could not attend for reasons such as business or family concerns, members who did not sign up for the course? How would providing this capability affect our class attendance, marketability of ILR, our bottom line? How long do we "hang out" the course for members and how long do we store the course? Who pays for the development of the extension of the

course capture capability to ILR? Who owns, maintains, and updates the capability? If the capability is created in only one or a few classrooms, how does ILR protect its access to the capability? While the current presumption is that the Instructor owns the intellectual property rights, how does ILR acquire the right to show the materials to members and for how long? Do we permit downloading (copying) or only viewing on-line? How much storage would it take to store some or all of our courses for a year and where? What processing speed/capacity and bandwidth do we need to support this capability and how many requests for different courses do we support simultaneously? How do we develop this capability in stages, over time?

Now is the time to ask questions. Members who have concerns, ideas or questions should contact Robert Chapin, Chair of the Communications & Technology Committee, at k4ybz@cox.net or drop off a note at the office.

There are answers out there; we have to find them. The CTC will probably take a top-down approach starting with the policy issues: who and why. Don Christensen, who brought up this idea, has kindly agreed to work with the committee in finding some of the answers. We will work with Rachel Crockett to find answers to the technical questions. We will ask ODU to work with us on some of the cost and financial issues. We know the technology is out there. The challenge will be to harness the technology in an affordable manner to support ILR's goals (when we have defined them).

~~Robert Chapin





Edenton, North Carolina Christmas Candlelight Tour

We left Target parking lot on Friday, Dec. 13th (no triskaidekaphobia in this crowd) for Edenton, North Carolina set on the Albemarle Sound. After a "light lunch" on the bus, we arrived to a very busy, decorated town during the two-day celebration of the Candlelight Christmas House Tours. Our group was ready for a festive time with holiday decorations and Christmas lights. We had a couple of hours to tour the local museums and visitor center. During this part of the day, excellent appetizers and candies were offered by the merchants and the Edenton Historical Commission along with "spiked" eggnog.

Our "early" buffet dinner was tasty at a local restaurant/gift shop where we were treated to some of the favorite foods in the area. We boarded the buses one more time and then set off to view up to a dozen homes that were decked out in their holiday finery. We were on our own and could choose the houses that interested us. We saw such a variety of treasures -- from an antique painting of Robert E. Lee to a unique collection of "pez" candy holders. The homes were amazing as they were decked out with many trees, lights and colorful accessories. The homeowners were very gracious to us - one owner even invited us to sit by his fire.

We also had time to explore the town, visit the local merchants and enjoy a local coffeehouse and listen to 40's music. The highlight of the evening for me was the availability of two horse-drawn wagons to ride around the town and check out the scenery, etc. The weather was perfect for a December evening and a wonderful time was had by all.

~~Sandy Barczak

In Memoriam

Linda H. Bagby Died: January 6, 2014

Phyllis Mary Hale Died: February 3, 2014

The Curriculum
Committee will hold a
training meeting on March
25th, 10 a.m. This is a
workshop for new
Committee members but is
open to those who are
thinking about joining and
those who are simply
curious about what we do.
If you would like to find out
more about how ideas and
classes and speakers come

ILR SCHOLARSHIP

ILR scholarship for ODU graduate student opens up March 1st. Applications will be accepted through May and the recipient's name will be announced by the end of June.

This is a \$3,000 year scholarship and runs for two years.