



# LIRA NEWSLETTER

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION  
Office of Community and Cultural Affairs – UMass Lowell  
Member of Road Scholar Institute Network  
Tel.: (978) 934-3135 Web: [uml.edu/community/LIRA](http://uml.edu/community/LIRA)

December 2014

Vol. 21 No. 4



*Please join us for  
LIRA's Annual Holiday Party  
and Town Meeting*

*Wednesday, December 10, 2014*

*10 AM until Noon*

*Cumnock Hall, 31 University Avenue, Lowell, MA*

*Shuttle bus from the Tsongas Parking Lot*

*Four Scholarship Awards will be given.*

*Participate in the Consumable Auction.*

*Enjoy the snacks and meeting with friends.*



# LIRA'S Scholarship Fund Annual Auction

We will hold our annual auction at the LIRA Holiday Party on December 10. We have decided that the auction will be a "Consumable Auction" once again. The Auction is a major fundraiser for the Scholarship Fund. This year LIRA will be giving \$1500 scholarships to four UMass Lowell students.



What is a Consumable Auction? It is an auction where all donated items can be consumed, i.e., you eat it, drink it, do it or use it up. The Committee sells tickets; \$1 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$5. You decide what item(s) you want and put your ticket(s) in the appropriate container(s). All donations must be brought directly to Cumnock Hall on the day of the party.



Some things you might donate:

Baked Goods; Candy; Wine; Gift Certificates, i.e., restaurant, movie, theater, grocery store, and bookstore

Suggestions for Baskets you can make:

Book – put a gently used book in a basket with a bookmark, book light, china teacup, box of tea, etc.  
Food – Italian or Mexican  
Soup Lovers Basket

I think you get the idea. It will all be wonderful and we have a great time deciding just what we want to win. Thank you to everyone who has donated in the past. Let's make a difference in someone's life and have a great auction this year.

*The Auction Committee,  
Carol Cannistraro  
Barbara Willman*

## Location of the Holiday Party and Parking Lot

The Holiday Party will be held on Wednesday, December 10 in Cumnock Hall on 31 University Avenue, Lowell from 10 a.m. to noon. A shuttle bus will be taking us from the Tsongas parking lot to Cumnock Hall, leaving us off in the front of the building. The first shuttle will leave at 9:00 am and return for another trip. The return trip will start about noon.

**Parking is in the Tsongas Parking Lot.** This is the lot where we normally park when we attend classes at the Tsongas Center, 300 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Lowell, MA. Please use your hangtags in the parking lot.

## Parking Problems

We would like to extend our apologies for all the parking problems we have had this fall. It seems that the UCAPS office wasn't getting the full list of members before our classes started. About a month into our classes, we were assured that all corrections were made; however, there were still members that were denied access to the parking lots. The easiest way to correct this is to go to the UCAPS office in the University Crossing building on 220 Pawtucket Street, Lowell. The guard at the corner of Pawtucket and Salem Streets will let you park in the lot if you explain where you need to go. Tell them in the UCAPS office that you are a member of LIRA and that your photo ID card does not work in the parking lots. You may also try calling them at 978-934-2800.

## Use Your Hangtags!

Please use your hangtag in ANY UMass Lowell parking lot. Members have received warnings in the Tsongas parking lot and another member received a \$15 parking violation.

## Scholarship Update

Again we have received scholarship applications from bright and interesting UMass Lowell students. The committee has been meeting weekly to read, study and discuss them. Somehow we will choose four winners and present them at our Holiday Party on December 10. At a later date, we will make applications available to the LIRA members so they can see the variety of interests and work in which the students are involved.

The Scholarship Committee would like to thank the members for generously donating more than \$2000 which helps to make our scholarships possible. The proceeds from the Consumable Auction also go to the fund. We thank you for all your donations.

*Bill Terris, Scholarship Chairman*

## Program Notes

Welcome to all the new members! There seemed to be some confusion among the new members about the classes you could take in the fall semester. All members are welcome to go to any of the classes being offered even if you haven't signed up for them. If your name is not on the attendance list, just add your name to the bottom. This list is for the coordinators to use in case a class has to be cancelled; they will contact you if there is not a class. The only time you need to sign up ahead of time is for any of the trips, especially if a bus is being used.

Even though we do not have coffee provided for us any more, we are still collecting donations in the classes. The money collected is put into the LIRA account for operating expenses. At each of the big meetings, we have to pay \$3 per cup of coffee and the donations help to defray expenses.

## Holiday Party Details

Because of the difficulties of transporting the food on the shuttle bus, we are keeping the food simple at the Holiday Party. If you would like to volunteer to bring some kind of finger food (fruit, cheese and crackers, cookies, etc.), it would be appreciated. Contact Mary Willis or Dawn Gillogly if you have any questions.



In lieu of exchanging gifts, LIRA members have donated many new books in past years for distribution by Community Teamwork, Inc. of Lowell, the agency which serves families in shelters and oversees many child care programs in the City. Each book is marked with a bookplate denoting that it is a gift from Learning In Retirement Association. They continue to need warm clothing such as hats, mittens and gloves, for children of all ages.

The following is an email from Joan Aseltine of CTI, giving a more detailed description of what they need.

CTI can always use hats, mittens and books for clients we serve in such programs as our family shelters, Head Start, Women, Infant and Children (WIC) and clients who come in for services. For more information on CTI's mission, programs, and services, please check out our new web site at [www.commteam.org](http://www.commteam.org). We continue to need children's books especially board books for the very young and picture books for pre-k to grade 2. Big Brothers Big Sisters is also part of CTI and children's age range is 7 through 15. Mittens and gloves are especially needed along with hats. We also distribute hats and mittens/gloves to veterans in need.

**Please bring a new book and/or hat and mittens, unwrapped, to the Holiday party.** Thank you for your participation. Contact Elaine Jeleschiff if you have any questions.

## Member News

We are saddened to learn that long-time LIRA member Jerry Gilmore passed away on November 5.

Jerry was very active with LIRA presenting many courses and serving on several committees. (see Appreciation on p. 4.)

We offer our deepest sympathy to Davida and the family.

Please continue to let me know of any LIRA member who would like to be remembered, and I will send cards.

Simone Allard, 603-943-7527, [simone32allard@gmail.com](mailto:simone32allard@gmail.com)

## Spotlight Member

### Welcome Ronda Kenger!!

This time we have a new member to "get to know". She is Ronda Kenger whom I met in our "European History and European Lives" class this fall semester.

Ronda hails from Littleton but she is originally from Long Island, New York where she attended university at Stony Brook. Since then she has had a long and varied life including some time in El Paso where her former husband worked at White Sands on Raytheon projects. She has raised 2 children, a daughter and a son, and she has 2 grandchildren.

Professionally Ronda is a former French and Spanish teacher. She has travelled to France and, through the UMass system, to Spain to take graduate courses. Other travels include trips to Hawaii, St. Lucia, St. Martin, Great Britain, and most recently a trip to Israel last February.

Ronda enjoys cooking and baking, reading, and gardening, working out at the gym, and she has done volunteer work at her synagogue.

Since Ronda's retirement she has been enjoying being with and taking care of her 2 young grandchildren about 3 days each week. Still having some free time on her hands and looking for some activity that offers intellectual stimulation she thought that she would "check out" LIRA. After Ronda had seen an article about LIRA in the "Action Unlimited" she joined us this fall.

Seeing an article about LIRA in "Action Unlimited" prompted her curiosity about us and she "took the plunge" and she just joined this Fall Semester. I think she will find plenty of like-minded souls in LIRA as she gets to know more members and she has a chance to sample more programs.

*Jeanne Gunion*

## List of What to Bring to the Holiday Party

I love lists! I thought it would be helpful to have a reminder of what to bring to the Holiday Party in one place.

- Donation of warm clothing for any size child (hat, gloves, mittens, scarf)
- New book for a child of any age
- Donation to the Consumable Auction
- Finger food for our enjoyment

*Jeri Durant*



*I would like to wish you all a Joyous Holiday Season and a New Year of Peace, Happiness and Good Health.*

*Jeri Durant*



## Remembering Jerry Gilmore

Jerry was a very active member of LIRA. He was on the Curriculum Committee, the Scholarship Committee and on the Executive Board as a member-at-large. Those of us that were members during his active years were very fortunate to have him as a presenter for many courses and lectures. He seemed to be able to talk about anything. LIRA has donated \$50 to the Scholarship Fund in his memory. A portion of his obituary is reprinted below.

*Jeri Durant*

If you were a LIRA member between January 2005 and September 2011, you had the good fortune to know Jerry Gilmore as a presenter on topics of his varied interests. This includes his interests in the series of video lectures (Great Courses) he showed. Here is a list taken from the LIRA Programs database.

- Race to the Moon
- A Visit to China
- China Adventures
- Vigeland Sculpture Park, Oslo, Norway
- A History of Hitler's Empire (Great Courses)
- What's New in Electronics
- Five Thousand Years of China History (Great Courses)
- NASA's New Initiative to the Moon
- US National Parks
- Churchill (Great Courses)
- Physics in Your Life (Great Courses)

Jerry was also a willing coordinator whenever one was needed to manage a tour.

- Mosque visit
- Canal Boat Tour
- Buddhist Center
- Haystack Observatory

As a valued person on the LIRA Executive Council and as a friend, Jerry is irreplaceable.

*Dorothy Bromage*

Jerry Gilmore was one of the first people I spoke to at LIRA. He was always friendly and made me feel welcome there.

*Claire Frassica*



He was so very knowledgeable when he taught the classes at LIRA and I learned so much when he directed them. He will be missed.

*Marion J. Richards*

Shortly after I retired from the Air Force and began civilian life working at the Charles Stark Draper Laboratory in Cambridge, I was put on a project and worked with a returning CSDL retiree. "You'll like Jerry Gilmore," people said. "He's a real gentleman." He was. Later, watching the movie credits for the blockbuster *Apollo 13*, I noticed Jerry's name and asked around. He had been one of the engineers who brought the stricken craft back home. He never mentioned this to me. Since then, beyond his gentlemanliness, I have always stood in awe of him.

*Skip Youngberg*

*From the Boston Globe:*

Gilmore, Jerold P. Loving husband, father and grandfather of Chelmsford, a former resident of Newton and Westford, passed away November 5, 2014, in Lowell, at the age of 80, after a courageous battle with cancer. He is survived by his beloved wife of many years, Davida L. (Park) Gilmore, five children and ten grandchildren. Born April 16, 1934, in Manhattan, NY, a son of the late Morris and Esther (Kitay) Goldberg, Jerry grew up in the Bronx, and graduated from Stuyvesant High School. Jerry attended the City College of New York where he earned a Bachelor Degree in Electrical Engineering, and was grateful for his free education there. Later, he earned a Master of Science in Aeronautics and Astronautics from MIT. Jerry's passion and drive were boundless. He was an integral part of getting the NASA space program off the ground, while being a dedicated husband and father. He spent the majority of his career at the MIT Instrumentation Laboratory, later known as Charles Stark Draper Laboratory. Jerry worked on various space missions, including the Apollo Guidance, navigation, and control system, helped Apollo 13 return safely, and later became the Director of Space Programs. He has two patents to his name and received many technological awards and honors throughout his lifetime.

## In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great

In the fall of 2013, Connie took a 14 day tour of the Balkans with Road Scholar, entitled "In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great". 17 well-travelled people toured Albania, Macedonia, Greece and Bulgaria. The tour began in Tirana, the capital of Albania. As in other countries visited on this tour, many buildings were built in the Art Nouveau style. An outstanding feature of Tirana is the National History Museum with beautiful mosaic murals. The local folk art of this primarily Muslim country consisted of colorful textiles, recreated national costumes as well as handmade tablecloths, all frequently displayed at outdoor markets.

After touring Albania, the group visited Macedonia, formerly part of Yugoslavia and since 1991 an independent country. The scenic Lake Ohrid area is a Unesco Heritage site. There are lovely Eastern Orthodox churches in the Byzantine style, identified by the placement of bricks around windows, domes and the roofline of the stone structures. A large Roman amphitheater in Ohrid still is in use for performances that entertain summer tourists.

A recreated prehistory site is Gradishte, a settlement built on stilts over water in an inlet of Lake Ohrid. The waters in the beautiful Galisica National park is well known for cultured pearls, whose varied painted on colors are made by using ground fish bones. During the Roman Empire, cities along the Via Egnatia, the road connecting Rome to Constantinople, had carved marble fountains which remain to this day. The city of Heraclea in Macedonia, founded by Phillip II, father of

Alexander, the Italian government was involved in rehabilitating the archeological site. The mosaic floors of the basilica, portico of the courthouse and some statuary can be studied and photographed

Pella, the capital of ancient Macedonia in Greece, was the next stop on the tour itinerary. Alexander the Great was born there in 356 BCE. Treasures from tombs are exhibited in the city's



Alter screen, 4th C, Bulgaria,  
National Institute of Archaeology and Museum.

archeological museum. Among the objects pictured, a marble head of young Alexander from the 4th century BCE, and mosaics of a hunt, using river stones rather than mosaic pieces. Thessalonika is a great city to learn of the Hellenistic culture. Below a section of its ancient wall are lovely varied colored homes built in the style of the 14th century. In its archeological museum was a special exhibition of exquisite pieces of gold jewelry enhanced by using granulated gold. Bulgaria, the poorest nation in the EU, is very mountainous. Its frequent local festivals, as in the other Balkan countries visited, afforded the opportunity to see colorful textiles. The Unesco

Heritage site at Boyana was where visitors saw a lovely Bulgarian Orthodox church from 1259. Sofia, capital of Bulgaria, was in medieval history, the seat of the Bulgarian Empire. In addition to buildings in the Art Nouveau style, there is one of the most important neoclassical landmarks of Sophia, the Ivan Vazov National Theatre, and the massive building of parliament from communist times. One of the most lovely Neo Byzantine churches is the Alexander Nevsky Memorial Cathedral.

*Jean Schott*

## LIRA Member Honored by MCC



Congratulations to Marjorie Short for receiving Professor Emeritus status at Middlesex Community College on October 29. She started the Dental Hygiene program in 1970 and was a professor there for 25 years, 15 of them as Department Head. The textbook she wrote is in its fourth edition and is still being used at the college. When she received the award, the entire faculty from the dental department, many of whom were her students at one time, stood up to applaud.

## Chelmsford Library Lecture Series

The Chelmsford Library is running a Lecture Series in conjunction with LIRA on the second Friday of the month. The lectures begin at 10 a.m. in the McCarthy Meeting Room. Check the library's website for further information.

December 12, 2014: "Genetically Modified (GM) Food" presented by Noemi Custodia-Lora

January 9, 2015: to be determined

February 13, 2015: "Purgatory to Podunk" presented by Pete and Debbie Lincoln

[www.chelmsfordlibrary.org/programs/programs/friday\\_morning\\_lectures.html](http://www.chelmsfordlibrary.org/programs/programs/friday_morning_lectures.html)

## Visit to Fruitlands Museum

The Fruitlands Museum was founded in 1914 by Clara Endicott Sears. It takes its name from an experimental Utopian community led by Bronson Alcott and Charles Lane, which began here on this site in 1843 on 90 acres. Originally, it was only a small farmhouse where Sears had built her home, named Pergolas, several years earlier. The museum is a cluster of small buildings which were added to the National Historic Register in 1997 as the Fruitlands Historic district.

The following are the buildings which make up the Fruitlands Museum:

1. The original Fruitlands farmhouse has been restored to its original appearance in the 1840's.
2. The Shaker Museum, home of the largest archive of Shaker documents in the world, added to the complex in 1922.
3. The Native American gallery, added in 1928, houses a significant collection of artifacts that honor the spiritual presence and cultural history of Native American tribes from throughout the US.
4. The art gallery contains 100 landscape paintings and over 230 vernacular portraits—the second largest collection in the country. It holds a variety of rotating exhibits throughout the year.

This year, Fruitlands celebrated the past 100 years of its existence by highlighting the richness of its diverse collections. Members of the community were invited to share stories of their connections to the museum. In order to present the most popular items on view at the museum over the years, a vote was taken by visitors to the museum over the last year to indicate their favorite items there. As a result, an exhibit was developed to display the 100 most popular items there in recent years! Stories written by the voters about their favorite objects were on display also. The item which received the most votes was the yellow apothecary cabinet housed there. It reflects the Shaker's original desire to build the most beautiful furniture in order to create heaven on earth.

*Jean Schott*

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## Newsletters on Website

Would you like to Go Green by reading your newsletter on-line? The on-line newsletter is just like the printed one only better—it's in color! Please help us save substantial printing and mailing costs to the university as well as a few trees. Sign up by emailing Shirley Mitchell at [shirleytm2@comcast.net](mailto:shirleytm2@comcast.net).

The website for the newsletter is

[www.uml.edu/community/LIRA/newsletters.aspx](http://www.uml.edu/community/LIRA/newsletters.aspx)

## European History and European Lives

How about continuing the fall series that saw such good attendance? The Curriculum Committee will be setting the schedule for March-May next year. It may be possible to continue. Below is the list of video lectures of European History and European Lives. From the total of 36, some have already been presented and are not on the list. If you were present at any this fall, you know the format. Along with the half-hour video lecture, there is time to add information not covered in the lecture and time to augment it with what interests you most.

You may be interested in participating in the spring because you see a lecture about a special person. Indicate that interest by contacting Jeanne Gunion or Dorothy Bromage. This will not guarantee you a spot on the schedule, but it will give an idea of what may be developed.

*Dorothy Bromage*

### EUROPEAN HISTORY AND EUROPEAN LIVES 1715 – 1914

*(Gaps in the numbering indicate the lecture was shown in the fall.)*

1. *(Lecture 1 is an introduction to the series)*
2. Augustus the Strong – Princely Consumption
3. Robert Walpole- Politics of Corruption
4. Frederick the Great – Absolute Absolutist
5. Jean-Jacques Rousseau – A Modern Self
6. Samuel Johnson –The “Harmless Drudge”
7. Maria Theresa – Mother of the Empire
8. David Hume – The Cheerful Skeptic
11. Joseph II- The Rational Emperor
12. Goethe – The Artist as Work of Art
13. Adam Smith – The Wealth of Nations
15. Edmund Burke – The New Conservatism
16. Robespierre – The Democrat as Terrorist
17. Mary Wollstonecraft – The Rights of Women
19. Metternich – The Spider and the Web
22. Giuseppe Mazzini – Idealist of the Nation
24. The Irish Starve – The Great Famine
25. Napoleon III – The Empire of the Boulevards
26. Pius IX – The Infallible Pope
28. Marx and Engels – The Perfect Collaboration
29. Otto von Bismarck – Blood and Iron
30. Charles Darwin – Origin of Species
31. Queen Victoria – “We are not amused”
32. Friedrich Krupp – The New Plutocracy
33. Louis Pasteur – Modern Laboratory Science
35. Alfred Dreyfus – First Act in the Holocaust
36. David Lloyd George – Champion of the Poor

## Cancellations

### Emergencies (Cancellation of Classes/ University Closing)

In the event that it becomes necessary to cancel a LIRA program for any reason, i.e. snowstorm, hazardous road conditions, or if the UMass Lowell campus is closed due to a storm emergency or other unexpected events and if the cancellation affects the entire membership, Toby Hodes will call Judy Miller or Carol McCarthy who are the telephone tree coordinators, to let them know of the cancellation. Judy and Carol will then call the contact persons to inform them of the cancellation. These contact persons will then call the members on their respective list to inform them of the cancellation.



## Email Notification

Many people signed up to have class cancellations emailed to them. Those people should make sure that they check their email in the morning if there is any doubt about a class being held. If there are others that would like to be on this email list, please notify Judy Miller (978-256-8466 or gmiller29@verizon.net) or Carol McCarthy (978-256-5904 or jfmccart@aol.com). Those not on the list will be notified by telephone.

**NOTE:** During the months from January to April, Phyllis Kallus will be taking Judy Miller's place. She can be reached at 978-251-3648 or phyllis@kallus.com

*Carol McCarthy and Judy Miller*



## Time for a Change

If you want to remain current with LIRA members, take pen or pencil in hand and make the following changes in your membership list.

### *New Members*

Terri and Robert Munson  
130 John St, Unit 209  
Lowell, MA 01852  
978-987-8258  
Terri's email:  
terri\_munson100@yahoo.com  
Robert's email:  
bob441947@yahoo.com

### *Address Change:*

Barbara Kager  
50 Skyline Drive #347  
Dracut, MA 01826  
978-551-8047  
barbarakager@yahoo.com  
(same)



The next newsletter will be out on March 1, 2015; the deadline for news items is February 15, 2015. Please remember that the coordinators are now responsible for getting someone to write an article about their program, if you want something to appear in the newsletter. Articles may be given to me at any time before the deadline.

*Jeri Durant*



The Town Meeting will be held on March 11, 2014. Classes begin on Monday, March 16, 2014.

### Newsletter Committee

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LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION  
University of Massachusetts Lowell  
Lowell, Massachusetts 01834

**Winter Intersession 2015**

The 2015 Winter Intersession, given between semesters, offers to retirees and those semi-retired, a sample of LIRA's almost year-round program and friendly community. The program is planned and much of it provided by the members themselves. The general public is invited to all Intersession programs. The time for these programs is 10 a.m. to Noon. Programs will meet at University Suites, Room 106A, 327 Aiken Street, Lowell, except for January 14, which will meet at the Campus Recreation Center, 292 Aiken Street, Lowell. **You will need your UML Photo ID to enter this building.** Parking for both is in the garage directly across the street from the Rec Center or in the Perkins Parking lot. Your ID is needed to enter the garage or lot. Please use your parking hangtags wherever you park.

**December 12**

**Book Discussion  
Toby Hodes\***

12:30p.m. to 2:30p.m. *Cascade* by Maryanne O'Hara **Meet in the Chelmsford Library.**

**January 7**

**Ethnic and Religious Minorities in Iraq  
Mehmed Ali**

This talk will cover a brief overview of the historical and social context of several minority groups in Iraq including the Mandaeans, Yazidi, Shabak, and the numerous Christian denominations. It will also provide a snapshot of the work of the US Embassy in Iraq and their support for these groups. A discussion on the latest issues involving the attacks of the forces of the Islamic State will put the plight of Iraq's minorities in perspective.

Coordinator: Jean Schott\*

**January 14**

**Tough Molls and Gumshoes: Hard-Boiled Detective Fiction Then and Now  
Melissa Pennell**

Dr. Pennell will look at the origins of hard-boiled detective fiction, some of the classic authors/novels, and then some contemporary examples. There will be time for LIRA members to share some of their favorites. She will bring in a few PowerPoint slides of magazine and paperback book covers. They are fun to examine and definitely helped to sell the tradition. **This program is at the Rec Center (address above) and you will need your UML Photo ID to enter the building.**

Coordinator: Russ MacLeod\*

**January 21**

**Terrorism Then and Now  
Neil Shortland**

This talk will re-visit the evolution of terrorism since 9/11, identifying the evolution of the nature of terrorism and United States Counter Terrorism. This talk will cover evolution up to and after 9/11, as well as the current (and future) issues surrounding the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

Coordinator: Jackie Carr\*

**January 21**

**Book Discussion  
Toby Hodes\***

12:30p.m. to 2:30p.m. *A Natural Woman* - autobiography of Carol King

**January 28**

**The Hidden Treasures of Korean Art and Modern Korea  
Kyung Pak**

The Korean Spirit & Culture Promotion Project is a not-for-profit organization that was formed in September, 2005 to promote Korean history and culture to the wider world. The Korean Spirit and Culture Presentation is designed to provide a basic introduction to Korea's long and rich artistic history, the spirit of its people, and its cultural values. The program will include the viewing of a DVD about Korean history and culture and modern industries. Following the program, traditional Korean refreshments will be served. Works of art, including paintings, objects, and costumes, will be on display.

Coordinator: Sheila Pariseau\*

**February 4**

**Secret Life of Beryl  
Jim Pecora**

Pecora's research into this presentation is extensive and provides an unknown perspective of the connections between the mineral Beryl and important industrial, political, and social aspects of the modern world. Jim claims that the Beryl is the single most important mineral of the 20th Century and he makes a persuasive argument with many interesting facts & statistics. Beryl was the sole resource for the important element Beryllium. Beryllium's influence upon our lives has, for most of us, remained a secret. This presentation will take you on a fascinating journey into the "Secret Life of BERYL," and the key role Beryllium played in America's Technological Innovations. Beryllium is crucial in 90% of the top 20 technological advances of the 20th Century, without which most everything we rely on today from satellites, to cell phones, to hand held computers might not have been made possible.

Coordinator: Bob Hanlon\*

**February 11**

**The British Army in Boston and the Massachusetts Rebellion  
Paul O'Shaughnessy**

Many are familiar with the various episodes that ultimately led to the outbreak of war in Massachusetts in 1775 and the vital role of the Militia companies. The nature of the British Army has remained less clear. They are alternately described as a terrifying force to be reckoned with or as overly disciplined robots. We will, through contemporary accounts, illustrations and artifacts, try to demystify and humanize these most important players in the opening phases of the American Revolution.

Coordinator: Dorothy Bromage\*

**February 18**

**Heroes Through History  
Katharine Covina**

"Heroes through History" explores the changing face of heroism through history. Beginning with ancient Greece and progressing to the present day, the class asks recursive questions relating to the interplay between societies and their heroes. Such questions include: How do societies define heroism? How do those definitions change over time? What are some of the different paradigms for heroes? What is a hero today?

Coordinator: Russ MacLeod\*

**February 18**

**Book Discussion  
Toby Hodes\***

12:30p.m. to 2:30p.m. *Lawrence in Arabia*, a biography by Scott Anderson

**February 25**

**The World of Mechanical Music  
Dorothy Bromage\***

Music boxes and player pianos are easily recognized, but there are many more instruments that make music mechanically. A video, "An Introduction to Mechanical Music," will demonstrate some of these and show how they work. Actual instruments will be enjoyed.

Coordinator: Richard Grove\*

\*Member of LIRA

# LIRA's Winter 2015 Intersession

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
December 8	December 9	December 10 10 am to Noon  Holiday Party Cumnock Hall	December 11	December 12 10am Chelmsford Library Lecture 12:30pm Book Discussion at Chelmsford Library <i>Cascade</i> by Maryanne O'Hara
		2015		
January 5	January 6	January 7 Ethnic and Religious Minorities in Iraq – Mehmed Ali	January 8	January 9 Chelmsford Library Lecture Series (TBD)
January 12	January 13	January 14 Tough Molls and Gumshoes: Hard-Boiled Detective Fiction Then and Now - Melissa Pennell	January 15	January 16
January 19	January 20	January 21 Terrorism Then and Now - Neil Shortland  12:30pm Book Discussion <i>A Natural Woman</i> – by Carol King	January 22	January 23
January 26	January 27	January 28 The Hidden Treasures of Korean Art and Modern Korea - Kyung Pak	January 29	January 30
February 2	February 3	February 4 Secret Life of Beryl - Jim Pecora	February 5	February 6

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
February 9	February 10	February 11 The British Army in Boston and the Massachusetts Rebellion - Paul O'Shaughnessy	February 12	February 13 Chelmsford Library 10am "Purgatory to Podunk" by Pete and Debbie Lincoln
February 16	February 17	February 18 Heroes Through History - Katharine Covina  12:30pm Book Discussion <i>Lawrence in Arabia</i> – by Scott Anderson	February 19	February 20
February 23	February 24	February 25 The World of Mechanical Music - Dorothy Bromage	February 26	February 27
		MARCH		
March 9	March 10	March 11 Town Meeting 10 am to Noon Cumnock Hall	March 12	March 13
March 16 Classes begin	March 17	March 18	March 19	March 29