



# LIRA NEWSLETTER

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

May 2012

Vol. 19 No. 2

*Please join us for*

## LIRA's Annual Meeting

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

10 AM to Noon

Alumni Hall, 84 University Avenue, Lowell, MA  
Shuttle bus from Salem Street B Parking Lot

Election of Officers

Hear about the new Summer Intersession  
Refreshments



## Instruments of the Orchestra - Percussion

“Okay,” I said, “I’ll do it,” when Barbara Page told me the Art & Music committee wanted a program about percussion instruments. They knew I had focused on the strings, on woodwinds, and on brass, each in its own educational and entertaining mode. For strings and woodwinds, UMass Lowell students demonstrated their instruments and provided enough information to fill a book. When brass instruments were the subject, it was the Mill City Brass quintet to which we were grateful for being able to see and hear a variety of brass instruments and a mini-concert.

When it comes to variety, though, you couldn’t beat the Percussion program March 28. Nor could you equal participation, as everyone in the room learned to play a single instrument. Why learn to play without a chance to perform? In my role as conductor, the LIRA Philharmonic rendered “Whispering,” with piano accompaniment, not once but twice.



Danny and Derek demonstrating some percussion instruments

Some of the instruments brought from my collection were well known: triangle, tambourine, maracas, and cymbal. Others were new: pan lid, and sleigh bells. Sound effects were represented by such devices as a train whistle and a frog. Devices that whistle, honk, or buzz were added for a full sound.

Daniel Dugan and Derek Heyden are two UMass Lowell percussion students who answered the call to enlighten

On May 25, Dorothy Bromage will be showing some “Laurel and Hardy” films at the Chelmsford Public Library in the McCarthy Meeting Room from 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM. The film program will feature these double acclaimed comedians of an earlier era. Dorothy will be exhibiting her Laurel and Hardy Memorabilia in the Library’s display case during May.

LIRA members about this family of instruments. Making time in their schedule to meet with us was very much appreciated as was their poise and



“stage presence” while demonstrating everything from finger cymbals to what you can do with a high hat. Derek is studying for a career in music education, Danny focusing on performance. Both will do well in their chosen fields!

The situation on March 28 was mutually beneficial; we learned how mature today’s university students are, and they saw a group of seniors doing anything but just sitting around. Derek and Daniel can also include in their resume that they played with the LIRA Philharmonic. You may now think that conducting is the height of what I can offer musically, but watch out! I just acquired a theremin!

*Dorothy Bromage*

### Coming Events of Interest

(Of particular interest to those who attended the Percussion program March 28)

**Tuesday, May 1 – 7:30 PM**  
**Concert Hall – Durgin Hall**  
**PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE CONCERT**

**Thursday, May 3 – 7:30 PM**  
**Concert Hall – Durgin Hall**  
**UNIVERSITY WIND ENSEMBLE CONCERT**

**Saturday, May 12 – 7:00 PM**  
**Congregation Shalom, 87 Richardson Rd, No. Chelmsford**  
**Author Dr. Joel M. Hoffman - *And God Said—How Translations Conceal the Bible’s Original Meaning***

Acclaimed translator Dr. Hoffman sheds light on the original intention of the text and the newly developed means that readers can use to get closer to it. In *And God Said*, his fresh approach has united the topics of religion, language, and linguistics to offer the first modern understanding of the Bible since it was written. [www.AndGodSaid.com](http://www.AndGodSaid.com)

**Sunday, May 13 – 2:00 PM**  
**(pre-concert talk at 1:30 PM)**  
**Cary Hall, 1605 Mass. Ave, Lexington**  
**METROPOLITAN WIND SYMPHONY**  
**SPRING CONCERT** [www.mws-boston.org](http://www.mws-boston.org)

## Betty Sampas, Member Spotlight

I was born in Marietta, Ohio, a small city on the Ohio River at the mouth of the Muskingum River. I attended a small elementary school where most of the children were White, Anglo Saxon and Protestant as was I. There were a few African American children. Marietta High School started with the seventh grade through twelve. I was a good student, made the National Honor Society and won a small scholarship to go to Marietta College. In college I started out as chemistry major, but although I would ace the exams, I was a complete klutz in the lab. Meanwhile I had taken a couple of courses in Drama and decided to turn away from science and go for liberal arts major! I took all the drama courses offered and worked backstage on plays and acted in a couple. I loved college!

In my senior year I met my future husband, Michael Sampas. Marietta College had a large number of students from New York and New England. That was the time of the return of veterans of WWII who took advantage of the GI Bill to get a college education. Mike's brother, Tony, had just got out of the service and was looking for a school. He came to Marietta and enrolled and told Mike about it and so after working for a year after high school Mike came to Marietta in '48. Although Marietta was a small college for some reason our paths didn't cross until I was a senior. After I hinted to a friend of Mike's that I had noticed him in the Student Union and found him attractive, Mike asked me to go to a movie. So that's how a WASP girl from Ohio ended up in a Greek family in Lowell, Mass. Best decision I ever made!

Mike and I went together for about a year and a half until he graduated in 1952. I had graduated in 1951 and worked as a billing clerk at a local firm. In August of '52 Mike got his draft notice and we decided to get married before he left for the service. In spring of '53 he was sent to Fort Benning, Georgia and I joined him in April and we settled into an apartment in Columbus and he commuted to the post where he worked as a lab tech in the Army Hospital. Our daughter Cassandra was born in that hospital in July of '54.

After Mike's discharge in August of 1954 we left Georgia and we spent a couple of weeks with my mother in Marietta and then came to Lowell. We lived with his family when we first arrived and he enrolled in the Boston University School of Social Work

At first living in Lowell was sort of culture shock to me. After living in city where nearly everyone was Protestant of many denominations and only one Catholic Church, being in a city where Roman Catholicism, at that time, was the majority took getting used to. But, more importantly, I was happily welcomed into a family of Greek Americans. Mike was the eighth child of a family of ten children. I was an only child. My mother-in-law spoke broken English but we communicated our respect for each other.

Mike received his Master's Degree in Social Work and by then we had settled into our own home and he was employed by the Veteran's Administration at the Bedford VA hospital. Over the next twelve years or so our family had grown to six children. I had always been stay at home mom. Although Mike had been christened in the Greek Orthodox Church he hadn't gone to the Greek School and so he wasn't that aware of the precepts of the Orthodox religion. We decided that our children would be introduced to the Protestant religion and joined a Congregational church which later became part of The United Church of Christ. I sang in the choir and the kids had perfect attendance in Sunday School and I made many friends, whose friendship I have cherished.

In the mid sixties Mike's sister, Stella, married Jack Kerouac, the Lowell born author who became the so called founder of the Beat Generation. Because of that marriage there were many interesting people whom I met and many interesting events in my life. Kerouac had been a close friend of the Sampas family for years before he became famous. His closest friend was Mike's brother Sam (Sebastian) who was a character in *The Town and the City*, Kerouac's first published novel. Sadly Sam died in WWII at the battle of Anzio in Italy. When Jack Kerouac died in October of 1969 many of the poets, novelists and followers of the Beat Generation arrived in Lowell for the wake and the funeral. We had just moved into a large Victorian house and had plenty of bedrooms so the night before the funeral we were host to Allen Ginsberg and his partner, Peter Orlovsky, Gregory Corso and John Clellan Holmes and his wife. The wake and funeral were written about in an article in Playboy by Holmes entitled, "Gone in October." I was mentioned in the article for having made French toast for their breakfast!

In February of 1990 my sister-in-law, Stella Sampas Kerouac died. In July of that year my husband, Mike, had a heart attack followed by coronary by-pass surgery which was a success, but in September he died in his sleep

In the first few years after Mike and Stella's passing away there was much going on in the Kerouac estate. My brother-in-law, John Sampas, had been named executor of the Sampas/Kerouac literary estate and in that regard I met many well known people. John would use my home to meet with people concerning the estate, etc. The actor, Johnny Depp, was just coming into fame and was very interested in Kerouac. One winter day in the mid 90s an agent, who had been handling some of the Kerouac mementos, showed up at my house with Johnny Depp! John and the agent had contacted Depp about his buying a trench coat that had belonged to Kerouac. I confess I really didn't know much about him at that time, but I was very impressed. He was very polite, rather quiet and absolutely charming. When he left he gave me a kiss,

I am the mother of six children, grandmother of twelve, but to me my claim to fame is being kissed by Johnny Depp!

(Betty Sampas, continued from previous page)

Some time last year, it occurred to me that I had belonged to LIRA for over twenty years, and now it is twenty one years. My husband, Michael, had passed away suddenly in September of 1990 and I was at a loss sometimes as to what to do with myself. I had never worked out of the home. My six children were off on their own, although they were all always around and helpful to me, they had their own lives. I was lucky that I had supportive friends! One of those friends called me one day in January of 1991 and told me that she had a suggestion of something I might like to check out and she brought me to a Wednesday winter session of LIRA. The speaker was a woman who spoke about James Michener; unfortunately, I don't remember her name. It was a very interesting presentation and since I had read several books by Michener, I found it enjoyable. My friend knew Mark Levine and some of the other members of LIRA and introduced me to a few. Ironically, because of other commitments, she wasn't able to join.

At that session, I heard that the next Wednesday speaker would be a young college professor who would be speaking on mystery books. Since I am an avid mystery reader, I made note of that and attended the next week and for the first time heard an excellent presentation about mysteries from a young professor from the university, Melissa Pennell. Dr. Pennell became a popular presenter of the LIRA programs, not only mysteries, but also poetry and other literary genre. Over the years, I have enjoyed Melissa's presentations so much that when she did a program during the summer months, I would drive to Lowell from my summer home at Weirs Beach, New Hampshire just to hear her speak. I don't really remember the other programs from that winter's session, but when the classes started in the spring, I joined LIRA and the first course I took was on American Novels presented by Freda Schiffman. At that time, LIRA was meeting at the Mogan Center, but because there was another course meeting at the same time, Freda held the class at her attractive apartment. If I remember correctly, there were six of us and we read a novel a week. Frankly, I can't remember what particular novels we read at that time because Freda offered other courses on novels and short stories over the next few years, all of which I took part in and enjoyed.

I wish I had kept a record of the courses that I took since joining LIRA, but I'm not that well organized and if I had kept track, the information probably would have been lost when I moved from my large Victorian house in Lowell to a small comfortable apartment in Groton last year.

I will just attempt to share a few memories of the courses I took and the trips we went on visiting museums, historical landmarks, Symphony Hall, etc. I have to say that one of my two favorites of all my LIRA experiences was the Poetry Workshop held by Paul Marion! I suppose sometime in my life I may have written a poem or two, but if so, they no longer exist. For some reason in the course of the workshop

with Paul, I found a muse and wrote several poems that I was proud of and three of them were actually printed in the book that Paul compiled from the product of workshop participants titled *Vital Records*. Besides having my poetry published, another pleasure of that experience was listening to others in the group reading their poetry, some humorous, some sorrowful, some insightful. The critiques that were made on each other's poetry were done in a friendly manner.

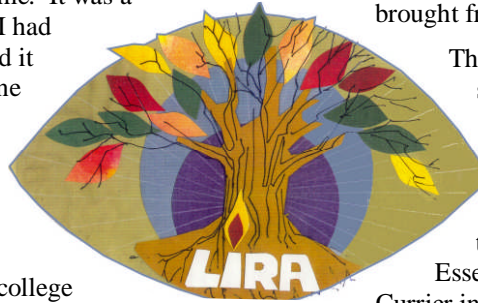
The second of those favorite courses was the Memoir Class led by Peggy Rambaud. It was the same sort of experience. Hearing of the lives of the others and sharing my own experiences was great fun. I wish I could say that I finished my life story but what I wrote is in the hard drive of my old iMac and a hard copy somewhere among stuff that was brought from Lowell and stuffed in a closet.


The other day someone asked me what we studied at LIRA and I was at a loss at where to begin. I've taken literature courses, art courses, religious courses, science course, courses about the Supreme Court, courses in music appreciation etc. etc. I've gone to the Museum of Fine Arts, the Peabody-Essex Museum, the Worcester Art Museum, the Currier in Manchester, NH, the Addison at Andover Academy, the New Museum of Contemporary Art, the Isabella Stewart Gardiner Museum and the Lowell Textile Museum among others. I enjoyed the Thursday morning rehearsals at the Boston's wonderful Symphony Hall. I have walked around Walden Pond, taken the Lowell Canal Tours, toured historic homes and interesting churches to view their stained glass windows, Greek churches to see their icons. I went to the Hindu temple here in Lowell. Others have gone to other religious meeting places that I wasn't able to go to. We had interesting tours of the Lowell Cemetery and historic Mr. Auburn Cemetery. I have ridden on luxury coaches and clunky school buses, and car-pooled to various venues, through rainstorms, snowstorms and traffic jams.

Even though I haven't been able to attend some classes in recent years because of physical problems, I always have tried to manage to attend the Book Discussion Group. We've read fascinating books and some not so fascinating, but the experience of sharing in the discussion, the exchange of ideas with fellow readers adds to the excitement and joy of reading.

I have met many interesting people since joining LIRA. I've had close friendships and friendly acquaintances. Some members have moved on to other places and other interests, and as a fact of life, I've shared in the feeling of loss when a fellow member passes away. As long as I can drive and can hobble on my walker, I'm going to try to keep LIRA in my life.

Betty Sampas





**Reminder:** Please remember to use your hangtags when you use any of the UMass Lowell parking lots.



LIRA member Shirley Mitchell presents a donation to Kathy Cryan-Hicks at their recent program on Navigation before GPS at the Chelmsford Library. In a joint collaboration with LIRA, the Chelmsford Library sponsors a morning lecture on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month. LIRA members Jane McKersie and Russell MacLeod are also pictured.

## Facebook, LIRA and UML

It's surprising how many cultural events you can attend right in this local neighborhood.

If you want learn more about them and have fun too, log onto Facebook.com and search one of UMass Lowell's several Facebook pages. Each department has a separate site and encourages readers to view them as well as make comments, "like" or add your own posting. You'll find there is more going on than you imagined and many activities take place right on UML campus or nearby including music, art and lectures all available to the UML community and the public. I was amazed by how much there is to do every week!!

I learned this when the UML Alumni office suggested I use their Facebook page (UMass Lowell Office of Alumni Relations) to reach a larger audience than their mailing. I typed in the LIRA website on their page and immediately our Logo appeared with information about our programs. I then wrote a few words on their Facebook page about UML graduates who are also LIRA members. I hope to encourage more of their alumni to join LIRA by keeping our name regularly in view.

UML Community Service also suggested using their Facebook page (UMass Lowell Community affairs). They post information about campus sponsored events and encourage others to "like" or comment. The Departments are appreciative of receiving lots of "likes" for their postings to show that people are aware of and participating in their programs.

If you're not a Facebook person I encourage you to take a look sometime and perhaps click that you like an event just to show your support for the University. You will find that they offer us a lot.

*Marjorie Short*

## "Short pay! All out!"

### Exhibit at the Everett Mill

The following lists upcoming events & ongoing exhibits at the Everett Mill, 15 Union Street, 6th Floor, Lawrence, Massachusetts 01840.

#### **April 12, 2012 - June 30, 2012 (possibly through August)** **The Lewis Hine Project: Stories of the Lawrence Children,** **by Joe Manning**

Joe Manning has pieced together the lifetimes of ten children -- subjects of 1911 Lewis Hine photographs taken in Lawrence, Massachusetts -- through detailed interviews with their extended families. He acquired many photographs and personal stories that bring Hines 1911 subjects to life.

#### **Sunday, April 22, 2012 - Sunday, May 6, 2012** **"The History of Maine Labor Mural," by Judy Taylor**

"The History of Maine Labor Mural" brings to Lawrence a set of images that now stands at the forefront of the discussion of 20th and 21st century public art and visual culture. In March 2011, the mural was removed from the lobby of the Maine Department of Labor at the order of Governor Paul LePage. The artist and the curator Nancy Nesvet produced life-size reproductions of the eleven panels of the mural for this traveling exhibit. The themes depicted in the mural and the exhibit texts are closely related to the 1912 textile strike in Lawrence as well as later labor struggles.

#### **Thursday, May 10, 2012 - Saturday, June 30, 2012** **Follow The Thread: America's Jewish Immigrants and the Birth of the Garment Industry, by Jacqueline Cooper**

"Follow the Thread" is a multimedia exhibit with related events, all of which tell the story about 19th and 20th century events unfolding simultaneously on two continents, and the significance of their relationship to one another. Underlying the exhibit is its key concept and universal theme, adapting to a changing world, portrayed by Americas' Jewish immigrants with the garment industry as vehicle. Clearly revealed are the inherent qualities and spirit of the Jewish people, and how the populace at large benefited from Jewish immigration and industry.

#### **Sunday, May 13, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.** **Follow the Thread Vintage Fashion Show,** **by Jacqueline Cooper**

The Fashion Show is a participatory event. The models are multi-generational members from each community where the venue is being hosted. The vintage garments are representative of the timeline portrayed in the exhibit. A DVD with images from the exhibit and music following the timeline introduces the fashion show.

#### **Saturday, June 2, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.** **The Immigrants Speak** is a Living History Performance which features participants playing the roles of characters who emerge from the images of the exhibit's timeline, wearing garments of their time, carrying a few of their belongings, and engaging the audience in the timeline, the place, and what that character is experiencing.

#### **September 21-23 & September 28-30, 2012** **Essex National Heritage Area's 11th annual Trails & Sails:** **Two Weekends of Walks and Water**

## Slate of Officers for 2012-2013:

The Nominating Committee would like to present the 2012–2013 nominations for officers of LIRA to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. All nominees have agreed to serve if elected.

President..... Toby Hodes  
Vice-President..... Alan Kent  
Secretary..... Shirley Mitchell  
Treasurer..... Ron Cannistraro

*Nominating Committee*  
*Carol Cannistraro, Chairman*  
*Alan Kent*  
*Shirley McCaffrey*

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## Chelmsford Library Lecture Series

The Lecture Series that the Chelmsford Library is running in conjunction with LIRA are held on the second Friday of the month at 10:00 AM in the McCarthy Meeting Room. The next scheduled date is May 11, 2012. Check the library's website for further information.

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

**Friday, May 11, 2012: The Science of Natural Disasters presented by Dr. Chuck Fidler, Assistant Professor of Physical Science, Wheelock College, Boston, MA**

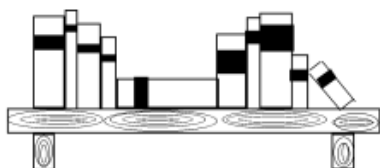
Every time you look around, some part of the world is being affected by some type of natural disaster: earthquakes in Japan and Haiti, tsunamis, volcanic explosions in Iceland, wildfires in California, intense hurricanes and swarms of tornadoes. Are natural disasters on the rise? What is really occurring? Is the 2012 Mayan prophecy of the Earth's demise ringing true?!

Learn what defines natural disasters and why they cause so much damage. Come learn about the science behind natural disasters, why they occur and how human society co-exists with the most powerful forces on planet Earth.

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## LIRA Library Notes

The LIRA library has several of The Teaching Company DVDs used for classes in the past. They can be borrowed by contacting Shirley Mitchell [Shirleytm2@comcast.net](mailto:Shirleytm2@comcast.net).



## Member News

Many of our members have had health challenges in the last few months.

Good to see that Dona Beavers is progressing nicely and has returned to LIRA sessions after her hospitalization. Jerry Gilmore has also recovered after falling and being hospitalized and is back teaching his physics course. Ron Cannistraro, Joanna Paulsen, Connie Richardson, Maria Siraco and Simone Allard have all had surgery and are in various stages of convalescence. Toby Hodes is facing health issues of her own after dealing with Larry's illness for so long. We wish them all quick recovery and continued good health.

If you know of anyone who would like to be remembered by LIRA please contact Simone Allard at 978-256-8572 or [siallard@verizon.net](mailto:siallard@verizon.net).

*Simone Allard*

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## A Personal Note

It is truly beyond my ability to sufficiently express Larry's and my gratitude for all of your cards, notes, messages and prayers these last few months. They meant so much to us, especially on the nights when I arrived home from the hospital in Boston, emotionally and physically exhausted, and found some words of encouragement or understanding in my mail, on my phone or my computer. It is amazing to me how much I felt you were with us, despite my being unable to be with you at meetings. Please accept this short note as being addressed to each of you as a very heartfelt thank you for all your concern. We are both truly looking forward to once again becoming actively involved and seeing and being with everyone again.

*Toby Hodes*

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The next newsletter will be out on September 1, 2012; the deadline for news items is August 8, 2012. I would like your articles a little earlier because I will be on vacation on the second and third week of August. 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*

## Dickens in Lowell

Dickens in Lowell is a seven month slate of exhibitions, performances and family programs that commemorate Charles Dicken's 1842 trip to Lowell from March 30 to October 20, 2012. Dickens in Lowell events fall into three main clusters, in March-April, July, and September-October. Check the website and Lowell Sun often for program listings.

Website: <http://www.uml.edu/dickens>

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## Details for Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting is being held on Wednesday, May 16 in Alumni Hall. Because of the parking problem at that location, members are asked to park at the Salem Parking Lot B across from the University Crossing building (formerly St. Joseph's Hospital) 220 Pawtucket Street, Lowell. University Crossing is on the left corner of Salem Street and a Shell station is on the right corner. Continue down Salem Street for a short way. The B parking lot is on the right and parking is **AFTER** the fence only. You should use your hangtags in this parking lot.

The shuttle bus will be running from this parking lot from 9:30am to 1:00pm for as many trips as needed to bring us to Alumni Hall and back.

It has been decided to bring homemade goodies for the meeting. If you would like to volunteer to bring some kind of finger food (fruit, cheese and crackers, cookies, etc.), it would be appreciated.

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## Newsletters on Website

The newsletter will appear on the website in color, around the first of the month. If you would prefer to read them there instead of getting a hard copy, please let Shirley Mitchell know.

Mailings should not take as long as they did for the March newsletter. The mail room sent them out 'standard' mail which is the next step down from first class and takes 5-7 business days to deliver. They were also taking advantage of the non-profit status where the postage went down considerably. They did not realize that the newsletter was time sensitive and will be mailing them out first class from now on. The website for the newsletter is [www.uml.edu/community/LIRA/newsletters.html](http://www.uml.edu/community/LIRA/newsletters.html)



## 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:***

Julie Barlas  
360 Littleton Rd # B-18  
Chelmsford, MA 01824-3370  
978-256-0853  
[ajbarlas@comcast.net](mailto:ajbarlas@comcast.net)

William R. Closs  
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Billerica, MA 01821-2913  
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[billcloss.semprefi@verizon.net](mailto:billcloss.semprefi@verizon.net)

Gene and Betty Krause  
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John Mamalis  
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978-376-4811  
[jmamalis@mac.com](mailto:jmamalis@mac.com)

Diane Massion  
255 North Rd #161  
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978 - 970 - 2025  
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Emanuel V. Polizzi  
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Frederick Wikander  
17 Wagontrail Rd  
Chelmsford, MA 01824  
978-256-5886  
[fwwikander@gmail.com](mailto:fwwikander@gmail.com)

### ***Member Renewal:***

Barbara Pofcher  
7C Old Colony Dr  
Westford, MA 01886  
978-692-4463  
[bpofcher@comcast.net](mailto:bpofcher@comcast.net)

### ***Email changes:***

Deanne Sferrino  
[deanneseff@rcn.com](mailto:deanneseff@rcn.com)

American Textile History Museum is seeking volunteers to serve as docents during our upcoming exhibition, *Homefront and Battlefield: Quilts & Context in the Civil War*, from July-November, 2012. To be a part of this exciting new exhibition, contact Sandra Price, Coordinator of Volunteer and Visitor Services at [sprice@athm.org](mailto:sprice@athm.org) or call 978.441.0400 X243.



### **Newsletter Committee**

Geraldine Durant, Editor & Calendar [jeri@netway.com](mailto:jeri@netway.com)  
Suzanne Knapp, Layout & Reproduction [knapp.sc@gmail.com](mailto:knapp.sc@gmail.com)  
Shirley Mitchell and [shirleytm2@aol.com](mailto:shirleytm2@aol.com)  
Sally Cady, Distribution  
Simone Allard, Member News [siallard@verizon.net](mailto:siallard@verizon.net)





**Learning in Retirement Association**  
University of Massachusetts Lowell  
Office of Community and Cultural Affairs  
One University Avenue  
Lowell, Massachusetts 01834

**2012 Summer Intersession Schedule**

The 2012 Summer 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 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon. All the indoor Intersession programs will be held in the Talon Room at the Tsongas Center, 300 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Lowell, MA **except for June 6** which will be at the Rec Center, 100 Pawtucket Street, Lowell.

**June 6 Exploring the History of Terrorist Groups and Ideologies**

**James Forest**

While the American public has developed a greater interest in terrorism since 9/11, the field of terrorism studies has existed for decades. Drawing from this research, this session will examine roughly 130 years of terrorist groups worldwide, including anarchists, left-wing revolutionaries, ethno-nationalists, right-wing and religious forms of terrorism. The session will also highlight the ways in which the structure and technical capabilities of terrorists have changed over the past several decades.

Coordinator: Alan Kent\*

**June 13 Clinical Research: From Conception to Publication**

**Paul Mitchell**

Ever wonder what's behind those reports you see on TV or in the newspaper when a new drug is purported to reduce symptoms or prevent disease? During this presentation you will learn how clinical investigations are conducted, what makes a good study design, how the rights of human subjects are protected, and how the results are communicated and of value to the public. Along the way, you'll learn a bit about statistics. Paul Mitchell is Senior Biostatistician at Children's Hospital Boston with more than 25 years experience in health research. He has co-authored more than 30 manuscripts appearing in peer-reviewed journals. His current focus is in pediatric gastroenterology.

Coordinator: Shirley Mitchell\*

**Friday, June 15**

**Book Discussion**

Shirley McCaffrey\*

*Townie* by Andre Dubus III. Please contact Shirley for the location.

**June 20 Visiting the Nearby Past: The Everett Mill and the Great Lawrence Textile Strike of 1912**

**Robert Farrant**

On June 20, LIRA members will visit the Bread & Roses Centennial History Exhibit on the 6th floor of the Everett Mill in Lawrence, MA. The Bread & Roses Strike's history is artfully detailed in the exhibit. In addition, there is a wonderful exhibit of Lewis Hine's 1911 photos of child workers in Lawrence. Through the skillful efforts of Joe Manning, the ongoing lives of ten of these children are explored. Robert Farrant will guide the exhibit tour, discuss the Hine Exhibit and answer questions about the strike on June 20th. Members wishing to carpool, meet at Hannaford, Drum Hill, Chelmsford at 9:15 AM. Parking is not a problem at the mill. Driving directions will be available on May 16 at the Annual Meeting.

Coordinator: Dorothy Bromage\*

**June 27 Samuel Fitch House, 91 Power Road, Westford, MA**

The Samuel Fitch House in Westford MA was built in 1713. At the time of the Civil War, runaway slaves were hidden there in a tunnel that was built in its basement as part of the Underground Railroad. The current owner of the home, whose family has owned it since 1968, will take us on a tour of the home and its lovely garden and offer us homemade refreshments afterwards. The home is now a bed and breakfast. Plenty of parking is available on site. Cost is \$10.00. Checks payable to Jean Schott should be postmarked on or before June 18. (POB 1628, Westford, MA 01886). Meet at the Samuel Fitch House at 10:00 AM. Driving directions will be available on May 16 at the Annual Meeting.

Coordinator: Jean Schott\*

**July 11 Fenway Park Tour - Celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Oldest Major League Ball Park still in use**

Visit the park where the Babe pitched, The Kid hit, Yaz dazzled, Pedro zipped strikes, Ted Williams batted 406, and of course, where the Sox played the Cardinals en route to win their first World Series in 86 years. Soak up the rich history; hear the echoes of the past; touch the Green Monster; imagine being one of the 'Knights of the Keyboard' as you see the view from the Press Box; and visit the Red Sox Hall of Fame before strolling around Fenway Park. This may be a good time to invite a grandchild along.

The standard tour route includes stops at the Budweiser Right Field Roof Deck, the State Street Pavilion, the Green Monster Seats and the Left Field Grandstand seats. The tour lasts one hour and includes a rich history of the ballpark and team. The tour sometime includes warning track access with the permission of the grounds crew. The tour is handicapped accessible but does involve a moderate amount of walking.

We will meet our bus at Hannaford, Drum Hill, Chelmsford at 8:15 AM. The cost for members is \$26.50. This includes the tour price and bus cost. For non-members it is \$36.50. Checks payable to LIRA should be mailed to Robert Hanlon, postmarked on or before June 22 (255 North Rd, Unit 37, Chelmsford, MA 01824).

Coordinator: Bob Hanlon\*

**July 18 Spotlight on the U.S. Marines**

**Bill Closs\***

Bill Closs is a veteran of 20 years in the Marine Corps, spending 18 years in the band field as a bugler, drummer, and drum major. Each Friday during the summer the Marine Band, Drum, and Bugle Corps and troops from 8<sup>th</sup> & Eye Marine Barracks, Washington DC, perform a ceremonial parade for the public. Bill will present a video coverage of the event as well as the "Sunset Parade." A video about the Arlington National Cemetery will also be shown.

Coordinator: Jayne Yeuell\*

**July 25 Healthy Hearts and Healthy Minds Go Hand in Hand**

**Dr. Arnold Kerzner\* and Dr. Frederick Wikander\***

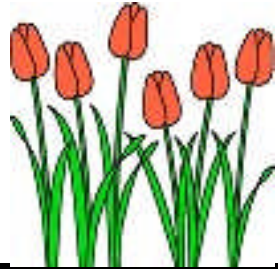
Dr. Wikander, an Internist, and Dr. Kerzner, a Psychiatrist, will team up to present up-to-date information about how to keep your heart and mind as fit as a fiddle. Like playing the violin, it takes practice and perseverance. However, these physicians will offer "down to earth" information- and even some advice- as to how your blood pressure can remain in a normal range even while you're coping with the usual tensions and exigencies of everyday life. Just be prepared to breathe deeply and smile!

Coordinator: Jeri Durant \*


**August 1 Haystack Observatory**

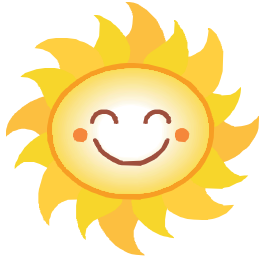
Located on top of a hill at the intersection of Westford, Groton, and Tyngsboro, Massachusetts, right off of Route 40. MIT Haystack Observatory is an interdisciplinary center of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) focused on radio astronomy, geodesy, atmospheric science, and radio science. About 80 staff members conduct studies of the structure of the galaxy and larger universe, advance scientific knowledge of our planet and its atmosphere, develop technology for radio science, and contribute to the education of future scientists and engineers. Examples of active programs involve planet-scale interferometric observations near the black hole at the center of our galaxy, space weather studies in Earth's upper atmosphere, geodetic measurements of Earth's rotation and other fundamental properties, and space surveillance activities conducted by MIT Lincoln Laboratory. We will give an overview and tour of Haystack facilities. Meet at Hannaford, Drum Hill, Chelmsford at 9:15 AM to car pool. Driving directions will be available on May 16 at the Annual Meeting.

Coordinator: Jerry Gilmore\*



# LIRA May 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10AM to Noon Physics in Your Life Jerry Gilmore 1PM to 3PM Silent Movie - <i>The Freshman</i>	2 10AM to Noon The Modernists— Liana Cheney  Executive Council Meeting—12:15	3 10AM to Noon Great Decisions - Shirley Mitchell 1PM to 3PM Christianity— Alan Kent	4	5
6	7 10AM to Noon Labor History— Bob Forrant 1PM to 3PM Shakespeare— Frank Carroll	8 10AM to Noon Physics in Your Life Jerry Gilmore 1PM to 3PM Silent Movie - <i>The Big Parade</i>	9 10AM to Noon  The American Impressionists- Jean Schott	5 10AM to Noon Great Decisions - Shirley Mitchell 1PM to 3PM Christianity— Alan Kent	11	12
13	14	15	16 10AM to Noon  Annual Meeting Alumni Hall	17	18 10AM to Noon Book Discussion  <i>The Garden of Beasts</i> by Erik Larson	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Memorial Day  	29	30	31		



# LIRA June 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	<b>6 10 AM—Rec Center</b>  <b>Terrorism with James Forest</b>	7	8	9
10	11	12	<b>13 10 AM—Talon Club Room</b>  <b>Clinical Research with Paul Mitchell</b>	14	<b>15 10 AM Book Discussion</b>  <i>Townie</i> by <b>Andre Dubus III</b>	16
17	18	19	<b>20 9:15 AM to carpool at Hannaford</b> <b>Lawrence History Center/Everett Mill with Bob Forrant</b>	21	22	23
24	25	26	<b>27 Meet at house at 10 AM</b>  <b>Samuel Fitch House</b> <b>91 Power Road</b> <b>Westford, MA</b>	28	29	30



# LIRA July 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 8:15 AM for bus at Hannaford Fenway Park tour	12		14
15	16	17	18 10 AM - Talon Club Room Marine Band, Arlington Cemetery with Bill Closs	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 10 AM - Talon Club Room Healthy Hearts and Healthy Minds	26	27	28
29	30	31				



# LIRA August 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1 9:15 AM to carpool at Hanna- ford</b>  <b>Haystack Observa- tory</b>	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	