



# 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)

May 2015

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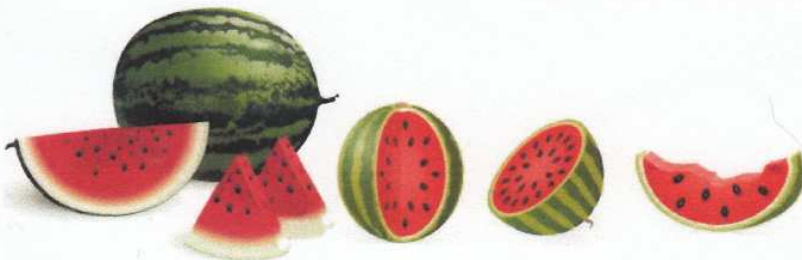
## SUMMERTIME

*and the new Summer Intersession is almost here!*

**Join us for LIRA's Annual Meeting  
Wednesday, May 20, 2015  
10 AM to Noon**

**Cumnock Hall, 31 University Avenue, Lowell, MA  
Shuttle bus from Tsongas Parking Lot**

**Election of Officers  
Hear about the new Summer Intersession  
Refreshments**



## Details for Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 20 in Cumnock Hall on 31 University Avenue, Lowell from 10 a.m. to noon. A shuttle bus will be taking us from the parking lot at the Tsongas Center to Cumnock Hall. The first shuttle will leave at 9 a.m. **sharp** and return for a second trip. The return to the Tsongas parking lot will leave shortly after the end of 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. Many, many thanks to all the volunteers who provided the delicious refreshments during the spring session.

Along with the election of officers, we will be reviewing the summer schedule and signing up for trips. If you are not able to attend the Annual Meeting and wish to sign up for trips, please ask someone to do it for you.

Hope to see you all there!

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## New Committee Chairs

Bonnie Heines and Jean Schott have agreed to become Membership Co-chairs. Janet Redman and Deanne Sferrino have agreed to be Scholarship Co-chairs. Thank you to all of you for taking on these responsibilities.

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## Slate of Officers for 2015-2016:

The Nominating Committee would like to present the 2015-2016 nominations for officers of LIRA to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. All nominees have agreed to serve if elected.

President..... Richard Grove  
Vice-President..... John Mamalis  
Secretary..... Shirley Mitchell  
Treasurer..... Ron Cannistraro

*Nominating Committee*  
Jeanne Gunion, Chairman  
Claire Frassica  
Alan McKersie

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## Play nice! Take Turns with Dorothy Bromage

The goal of this program was to help participants better identify musical instruments as they are featured in a musical composition. Two pieces were analyzed for the group. One was Antonio Salieri's 26 Variations on la Follia di Spagna. The other was Ravel's Bolero. Listening exercises helped further the goal of the presentation. Musical vocabulary was discussed as many of the terms appear in Italian, French and German. The instruments appearing in each variation were introduced. A PBS video of the NY Philharmonic Orchestra was shown of their performance of Bolero on New Year's Eve.

*Jean Schott*

## Membership Renewal 2015 – 2016

In order to assist UMass Lowell with its LIRA database, we are asking current members to use the LIRA renewal form printed in this Newsletter. Every member must complete a form. If you are renewing a single membership use the bottom half of the form, snip and mail with a check as directed. Both persons of a couple must complete separate information, so use both forms on the page and send the entire page with a single check. Send form(s) and check to the Alumni Office, as directed, on the renewal form, by August 14, 2015.

If you wish to pay by credit card, please use the form on the LIRA website: [www.uml.edu/community/lira](http://www.uml.edu/community/lira). Click "Join LIRA" on the left side menu and then click "Join online now!" This is a very convenient payment method since you will receive immediate acknowledgement and receipt. It was a great year and now we look forward to seeing you again in the next academic year.

*Bonnie Heines and Jean Schott, Membership Cochairs*

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## Member News

We are happy to learn that Mary Willis is recovering nicely after her recent hospitalization.

Ann Dahlman has a new home. She has moved to be close to her sister. She is now at:

The Arbors  
140 Franklin Street, Apt 215  
Stoneham, MA, 02180  
781-435-1958

We are saddened to learn that another former LIRA member, Ed Farley, passed away on April 5, 2015. We offer our deepest sympathy to his family.

Please remember to notify me of any member who would like to receive a card from LIRA.

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

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## Newsletters on Website

Yes, I'd like to Go Green by reading my 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)

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As you are sitting at the computer--or tablet--take a look at this. Lowell Telecommunications sent it out on Facebook. Fun and interesting to see a time-lapse video of Lowell.

<https://vimeo.com/122753771>

# Underwater Photography

## by Alex Shure

On April 8, photographer Alex Shure presented a series of photographs and video showcasing New England's underwater marine life. The bulk of the work that was displayed was shot in and around Cape Ann, Massachusetts. In addition to showing his work, Alex also brought a professional camera with its underwater housing. Participants were able to see the tools needed to capture professional underwater imagery. Topics of discussion included tools and techniques for working underwater, as well as behavioral and morphological features of our local underwater wildlife. Here are some links to some of his work along with examples of some favorites.

[www.shureunderwater.com](http://www.shureunderwater.com)

[www.facebook.com/ShureUnderwaterMedia](https://www.facebook.com/ShureUnderwaterMedia)



## Perspective on Climate, a 2015 Earth Week Event

Along with the rest of LIRA, I received an email invitation from the Office of Sustainability to attend the April 23 student film fest, "I'll Stop the World and Melt With You." It was held at University Crossings, which is why I registered to be there. (That and the food.) I was taking advantage of a reason to see inside the new University Crossings.

The trip was educational in more ways than one. I learned there is Building A and Building B—very important to know. I followed the directions to enter from Salem Street, and went in the fabulous new building we had all watched being constructed. What a lobby! It is spacious and includes both a café and a shop as well as ample room for just sitting around. The room I sought was not in that building, however, so go out, walk next door, enter Building A, and see familiar halls. In the past, we had occasionally been situated there for a class.

Yes, the room was in the old building. In addition to many students in the classroom, there were about half a dozen adults besides myself. We were first introduced to "Café Solar," which

promises to save the planet by processing coffee with renewable solar and biofuel energy (instead of burning wood). A Fair Trade Corporation, this is taking place in Honduras, saving forests.

Then we saw a presentation by the Climate Action Plan on "Energy Conservation and GHE Emissions Reduction Initiatives" prior to the major agenda of the day, videos by teams of students. Each video was a brief PSA (public service announcement), played for the audience then presented by the individuals in the student team. This was followed by second viewing of the video. The titles gave away the theme of the event: Voting Muscle, Climate Change Song, The Newsroom, Trials and Tribulations, Brave, and Family Feud. All were very creative and contributed to the Climate Change Initiative's theme: "Climate education in an age of media." The event left no doubt in our minds that climate change is real, all reinforced by the student research.

*Dorothy Bromage*

## A New Approach Dealing with Adolescence

Arnie Kerzner did it again! He went to Billerica Access Television (BATV) and sat down with a friend to talk about something serious--oh yes, and record it. Richard Grove was the person who was with Arnie, discussing Arnie's creative idea about adolescence. He takes a novel approach, outlining the parent's point of view of a special period in a young person's life. Stages of adolescence, it seems, are mirrored in the life of

the parent. To learn more, go to YouTube and find the YouTube search box. Put my name in the search box--Dorothy Bromage. You will see a picture of Arnie. Click on that to view the entire interview. You may know someone who would find the topic not only interesting but possibly helpful.

*Dorothy Bromage*

# The World of Mechanical Music

February 25<sup>th</sup> after THREE consecutive weeks of cancelled Intersession programs due to snowstorms, we heard a delightful presentation about mechanical music instruments by LIRA member Dorothy Bromage and Chris Christiansen. Dorothy and Chris are members of AMICA, the Automatic Musical Instrument Collector's Association ([www.amica.org](http://www.amica.org)). Familiar examples of mechanical music instruments are music boxes and player pianos, but we learned about many other varieties.

Dorothy began the presentation with a DVD "Introduction to Mechanical Music" by author Kirk Russell. The DVD presented the history of mechanical music instruments and also showed many kinds of instruments. Mechanical music instruments pre-date electricity, electronics, and phonographs. They produce music with little or no human intervention. Some early examples are wind chimes, Aeolian harps, and large chiming clocks from European cities in the Middle Ages. The large town clock could be quite elaborate including animated figures as well as music.

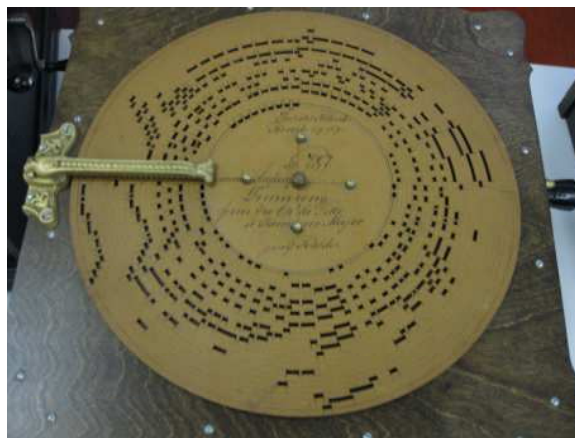
Music boxes using "pinned cylinders" were an important family of mechanical music instruments. More elaborate music boxes could play up to ten different tunes; such a music box could have 10,000 pins on its cylinder. Another large scale variety had a much larger cylinder referred to as a "pinned barrel". An

evolutionary development used a flat disk with pins to produce music; the disks were removable so you could have a whole library of metal disks.

A revolutionary change in mechanical music was the introduction of the player piano using a paper roll with holes in it to control the playing of music. Player piano rolls could hold up to 30 minutes of music, the rolls were easy to store, and they were much cheaper to produce than pinned cylinders or disks. Player pianos for use in the home were operated by foot pedals. Large "band organs" for high volume music were used at fairs, carnivals, and carousels. These large instruments could also be augmented with mechanically activated violins, banjos, chimes, and percussion. In the early 1900's the "recording piano" was introduced; it could capture a live performance and record it on a paper roll, and these rolls could then be played on a "reproducing piano" with an electric pump.

Dorothy and Chris brought a variety of music boxes and mechanical instruments, they demonstrated their use, and LIRA members could operate them. Dorothy also shared pictures of the three mechanical pianos she has in her home. We all enjoyed this wonderfully informative and entertaining presentation.

*Richard Grove*



Dorothy and Chris Christiansen with their display of various mechanical music instruments

# Greater Lowell Music Theatre *presents*



## **“Anything Goes”**

June 26 & 27, 7:30 p.m., June 28, 2 p.m.

Cole Porter’s timeless classic about the craziest sea voyage ever put on stage. Memorable songs like the title tune frame a hilarious script written by P.G. Woodhouse, Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart. A dancing, singing and laughing extravaganza.



## **“A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum”**

July 31 & August 1, 7:30 p.m., August 2, 2 p.m.



Eddie Mekka (“Laverne and Shirley” TV star), who put his indelible stamp on Tevye in last summer’s ‘Fiddler on the Roof,’ returns to play Pseudolus in this, one of the funniest musicals you’ll ever see. “Forum” features the songs of Stephen Sondheim. A rip-roaring way to end our summer season.

Durgin Concert Hall, 35 Wilder St., UMass Lowell  
Tickets are \$35, or \$30 for Seniors/Students.

Greater Lowell Music Theatre, produced in partnership with the UMass Lowell Center for Arts and Ideas, is sponsored in part by a grant from the Lowell and Dracut Cultural Councils. For tickets and information, please visit [www.glmt.org](http://www.glmt.org) or call us at 978-319-8867.

Durgin Hall is wheelchair accessible.



## 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.

- May 8 "Privacy in the Digital Age" by Alex Matthews
- June 12: "Emily Warren Roebling" by Prof. Jack Apfelbaum
- July 10: "Stonehenge Mysteries Revealed" by Dr. Leon Poirier
- August 14: "Daughter of Good Fortune" A Twentieth Century Chinese Peasant Memoir" by Shehong Chen

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

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## Greater Lowell Music Theatre

In partnership with the UMass Lowell Center for Arts and Ideas, and sponsored in part by grants from the Lowell and Dracut Cultural Councils, the Greater Lowell Music Theatre is presenting three plays this season at Durgin Hall, 35 Wilder Street, Lowell, MA. *Fiorello* played in March.

June 26, 27, 28 *Anything Goes*  
July 31, August 1, 2: *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*

See their website for further information. [www.glmt.org](http://www.glmt.org)

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## 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.

*Address Change:*  
Ann Dahlman  
The Arbors  
140 Franklin Street  
Stoneham, MA 02180  
Tel. [781-435-0706](tel:781-435-0706)



The next newsletter will be out on September 1, 2015; the deadline for news items is August 7, 2015. I would like your articles a little earlier because I will be on vacation on the 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*



The Convocation will be held on September 15, 2015. Classes begin on Monday, September 23, 2015..

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### Newsletter Committee

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

**2015 Summer Intersession**

The 2015 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 the on campus programs is 10-00 - Noon with the exception of July 8 when there will be a morning and afternoon session.

**NOTE:** Following are the current room assignments for our indoor sessions. Check your email before you go for any changes.

**June 10:** Campus Recreation Center, 292 Aiken St. Lowell. Parking across the street at the East Garage, 47 Pawtucket Street.

**June 24:** Saab Center, 40 University Ave., Lowell. Parking at the Tsongas Center, 300 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Bus to Saab Center at 9:15a.m.

**July 8:** Alumni Hall, 84 University Ave., Lowell. Parking at the Tsongas Center, Bus to Alumni Hall at 9:15a.m. and 12:15p.m.

**July 29:** Alumni Hall- Parking at the Tsongas Center, Bus to Alumni Hall at 9:15a.m.

Your ID is needed to enter the Rec Center and the garage. Please use your parking hangtags wherever you park.

**June 3 A Walk Around the Pond In Walden Woods**

LIRA'S annual summer outing this year will be Walden Pond. Walden Pond is a glacial kettle-hole pond made famous by Henry David Thoreau. Weather permitting, hikers will walk easy to moderate trails ringing the pond. A guide will be provided and the walk takes about an hour. Members may want to bring a picnic lunch, water, bug spray and wear waterproof footwear. Meet to carpool at Hannaford's side parking lot in Chelmsford at 9:15a.m. Shirley McCaffrey will have directions available at Hannaford. Parking at Walden is limited and a fee of \$8.00 per car with Mass. plates is charged. Connie has to reserve parking spaces once number of cars going is known so please signup today.

Co-coordinators: Connie Lanseigne-Case\* & Shirley McCaffrey\*

**June 10 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\*

**June 17 Beauport Historic Mansion in Gloucester, 75 Eastern Point Boulevard – A National Historic Landmark**

Beauport was the summer home of American's first professional interior designer, Henry Davis Sleeper. Perched on a ledge overlooking Gloucester harbor, the interior and exterior of the house contain Sleeper's lifetime collection of curios, colored glass, folk art etc. in every nook and alcove. While touring the estate, participants will learn about its architectural evolution and the sources of Sleeper's inspiration. Please bring lunch; there is no cafe at the Beauport Mansion or nearby.

**Cost of this trip \$22.00** (included is admission for seniors \$12.00 and bus \$10.00)

Meet at the Hanaford in Chelmsford at 8:30a.m.

Send checks made out to LIRA Inc.

Checks must be received by JUNE 3. Please send to Jean Schott, Box 1628, Westford, MA 01886

Co-coordinators: Dottie Morris\* & Jean Schott\*

**June 19 Book Discussion – *Sand Castle Girls* by Chris Bohjalian**

There will be a Potluck Lunch at Nancy Pitkin's home.

**June 24 The Galapagos Islands: Nature Up Close and Personal - Joan Kerzner\***

A recent visit to the Galapagos Islands, 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador, brought us into a natural world that time seems to have left behind. Populated by exotic birds and other unusual species of animals virtually unknown outside of these islands, we were introduced to Charles Darwin's living laboratory. The Islands are meticulously protected by Ecuador's National Park Service, which seeks to limit and control the human footprint there.

Coordinator: Terry Munson\*

**July 8 There will be 2 programs:**

**10:00-Noon What You Need to Know about GMOs - Phil Jones**

Phil of Jones Farm, will discuss the effect of GMOs on human health and the environment. He emphasizes the role of agriculture in pollution. There are consequences when there is an interruption in the system nature imposes

Coordinator: Margaret Brown\*

**1:00-3:00p.m. Before Stephen King, There Was H. P. Lovecraft - Darrell Schweitzer**

This presentation by Lovecraftian scholar and Author, Darrell Schweitzer, will speak on Lovecraft and his influence in horror fiction. Lovecraft was little recognized in his lifetime, but always had a hard-core fan base that exploded into a major following beginning in the 1970's. Most of Lovecraft's work is set in New England and this presentation will include pictures of the locations mentioned in his works, including bust and gravestone in Swain Cemetery in Providence, Rhode Island.

Coordinators: Beverly and Kim Rudeen\*

**July 15 Hawk Valley Farm, 526 Varnum Ave., Lowell - Jane Calvin, Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust**

The farm was one of Lowell's original farm settlements in the 1600's. Nearly five acres in size, this little known historic land behind Regatta Field (aka Anne Welcome Field) provides a protected corridor between the Lowell State Heritage Park along the Merrimack River and the Lowell-Dracut-Tyngsborough State Forest to the north. Parking is available on Varnum Terrace but parking is limited at the site. Parking within walking distance is also available at the Pawtucketville Memorial Elementary School, 425 W Meadow Rd, Lowell, MA 01854 Meet at the school parking lot at 10:00a.m.

Coordinator: Nancy Pitkin\*

**July 22 A tour of the Anjuman-e-ezzi: A mosque in Billerica, 246 Rangeway Rd. N. Billerica, MA**

The Anjuman-e-ezzi serves the congregation of the Dawoodi Bohra Muslim community in the Boston area. They are part of a worldwide community of approximately one million followers. At the Ajab complex, there is a mosque, a center for a Saturday religious school and a priest residence. The architectural style is called Fatimid which originated in Egypt. The inauguration of the mosque took place in 2004.

A sign-up sheet will be available at the May meeting. Contact Jean Schott by e-mail or phone by May 27:  
[jeanschott@aol.com](mailto:jeanschott@aol.com) or [978 692-3904](tel:978-692-3904)

Coordinator: Marilyn Sicurella\*

**July 29 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\*

\*Member of LIRA



# LIRA's Summer 2015 Intersession

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
June 1	June 2	June 3 A Walk Around the Pond in Waldon Woods Meet at Hannaford at 9:15am	June 4	June 5
June 8	June 9	June 10 10am to Noon Rec Center The Hidden Treasures of Korean Art	June 11	June 12 10am to Noon Chelmsford Library <i>Emily Warren Roebing</i> by Prof. Jack Apfelbaum
June 15	June 16	June 17 Beaufort Historic Mansion Meet at Hannaford at 8:30am	June 18	June 19 Book Discussion <i>Sand Castle Girls</i> by Chris Bohjalian Potluck Lunch
June 22	June 23	June 24 10am to Noon Saab Center The Galapagos Islands	June 25	June 26
June 29	June 30	July 1 NO PROGRAM	July 2	July 3
July 6	July 7	July 8 Alumni Hall for both 10am to Noon What you need to know about GMOs 1 – 3pm Before Stephen King, there was HP Lovecraft	July 9	July 10 10am to Noon Chelmsford Library  <i>Stonehenge Mysteries Revealed</i> by Dr. Leon Poirier

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>July 13</b>	<b>July 14</b>	<b>July 15 10am Hawk Valley Farm Meet at school parking lot at 10 a.m.</b>	<b>July 16</b>	<b>July 17</b>
<b>July 20</b>	<b>July 21</b>	<b>July 22 10am Tour of Anjuman-e-eezi: mosque in Billerica</b>	<b>July 23</b>	<b>July 24</b>
<b>July 27</b>	<b>July 28</b>	<b>July 29 10am to Noon Alumni Hall British Army in Boston and the Massachusetts Rebellion</b>	<b>July 30</b>	<b>July 31</b>
		<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		
<b>September 14</b>	<b>September 15</b>	<b>September 16 Convocation 10 am to Noon Cumnock Hall</b>	<b>September 17</b>	<b>September 18</b>
<b>September 21 Classes begin</b>	<b>September 22</b>	<b>September 23</b>	<b>September 24</b>	<b>September 25</b>

**LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION/ UMASS LOWELL  
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

**If renewing as a couple, each one must fill out a renewal form.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

In the event of class cancellation I prefer to be notified by EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter will be delivered by EMAIL unless you have notified us to send by mail.

Are you a graduate of UMass Lowell? \_\_\_\_\_ What Year/Degree? \_\_\_\_\_

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

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Are you a graduate of UMass Lowell? \_\_\_\_\_ What Year/Degree? \_\_\_\_\_

LIRA membership dues are \$125. (\$200 for couples) for the year July 1 – June 30, payable by August 15. \$100 of your membership fee will be tax-deductible and will benefit our student scholarship fund.

See: [www.uml.edu/community/lira](http://www.uml.edu/community/lira)

Please return Renewals (or apply online by credit card) with a check payable to UMass Lowell, memo line LIRA, and mail to: Office of Alumni Relations, Charles J. Hoff Scholarship Center

UMass Lowell  
One Perkins Street  
Lowell, MA 01854