



# 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 2017

Vol. 24 No. 2

*Welcome Summer!*  
*and the new Summer Intersession*



**Join us for LIRA's Annual Meeting**  
**Wednesday May 17, 2017**  
**10 a.m. to Noon**

**Lydon Library, Room #110, 84 University Avenue, Lowell, MA**  
**Shuttle bus from Tsongas Parking Lot**

**Guest Speaker, Dr. Donald Pierson**  
**from UMass Lowell**

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

**"Bees and Buttercups"**  
**Watercolor by Kate Osborne**



## Details for Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 17 at the Lydon Library on 84 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 the Lydon Library. 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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## Annual Meeting Speaker



Dr. Donald Pierson will be our featured speaker at LIRA's Annual Meeting on May 17. When Dr. Pierson first came to Lowell in the 1980s, tasked with the mission of improving Lowell Public Schools, he only expected to stay for six months. But six months turned into roughly three decades of educational work. Dr. Pierson has worn many "hats" at UMass Lowell – Dean of the

Graduate School of Education, Provost, Vice Provost of Graduate Education, and Special Assistant to the Chancellor are but a few of the positions he has held at UMass Lowell.

Dr. Pierson will talk about guiding UMass Lowell through the four year reclassification of sports at UMass Lowell in the NCAA from Division II to a Division I intercollegiate athletics. This process which started in 2013 is scheduled to be completed this year with the completion of the Instructional Performance Program and Self Study.

*Nancy Pitkin*



The Convocation will be held on September 13, 2017.  
Classes begin on Monday, September 18, 2017.



## Help Wanted

The Art and Music Committee needs help! If anyone is interested in helping to prepare the programs, please contact Jean Schott at 978-692-3904 or email [jeanschott@aol.com](mailto:jeanschott@aol.com). The next meeting will be held after the Annual Meeting on May 17.

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## Program Change for May 3

The trip for the May 3 Art and Music program has been changed to the following.

**Wednesday, May 3 Visit to the Whistler Museum of Art, 243 Worthen Street, Lowell, MA 01852**

On display this spring in the Parker Gallery of the Whistler Museum is the exhibit of 65 paintings called *American Impressionism: Harbor Scenes*.

The paintings are part of a private collection of Stan Fry. They depict waterfronts in New England and other places in the Northeast. LIRA member, Jean Schott, will discuss the American Impressionist movement. Meet at the Whistler House at 10 a.m. Senior admission is 6 dollars

Parking can be done at either the Tsongas Center or at the Lowell National Park lot on Dutton Street. Enter that lot on Broadway and Dutton, and exit it there too. From the lot entrance, walk back on Broadway one block to Worthen Street, make a right and the museum will be on the left side of the street. Parking there is free. Tickets taken on entering the lot must be validated at the Park office next to the lot.  
Coordinator: Jean Schott

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## Look For Us

LIRA has a Facebook page. You can reach it by entering: [www.facebook.com/LIRAatUML/](http://www.facebook.com/LIRAatUML/) in your browser or simply search LIRAatUML from within Facebook. The page shows all of the upcoming LIRA events including classes and trips and you can find a link to our newsletters and schedule as well. Members are encouraged to post pictures and comments about LIRA events on the page. If you do not have a Facebook account, you can still access the page and see events, but you won't receive notifications of events you are interested in or be able to post to the site. Peter Sebelius will go over how to access LIRA's Facebook page at the upcoming annual meeting.

*Peter Sebelius*

# The Essence of Mathematics

On Wednesday, 22 February, in University Suites, Alan Friedman treated the large LIRA group to a fascinating adventure through math from the beginnings of human time. His premise is that math is an intrinsic human capability along with music, art and architecture, and communication. He led us through conjectures about pre-history and the historical record.

In pre-history, he took us back to the Neanderthals to illustrate how the fundamental concepts of math could have evolved: awareness such as how many and how arranged; concepts such as number, quantity, form and shape; and the pillars of math, arithmetic and geometry. Surely even Neanderthals could have seen the differences between large and small, mountains and mole hills and could tell how many are enough.

Math is reflected in our language. A lot of things come in ones and twos (including body parts), so our language associates the words for one and two with things. Some ancient languages and even some modern ones have not only singular and plural, but dual. At three, humans began to think of numbers independent of things. Numbers became a concept and could be thought of as a sequence.

Moving into historical times, we have records of the development of math. Stacks of stones and tally sticks were used to keep track of domestic animals, for example. The idea of a word for every number developed, although early languages generally stopped at 1000 or 10,000 (but they would not have written them that way). Archimedes is credited with devising a system for naming an indefinite sequence of numbers.

Math was held back by the early use of pictures (e.g. Egyptians) and letters (e.g. Romans) to represent numbers. Only when the Hindu/Arabic system was developed and introduced into Europe were European mathematicians able to do more complex calculations. The concepts of places and place holders became necessary which led to the concept of zero.

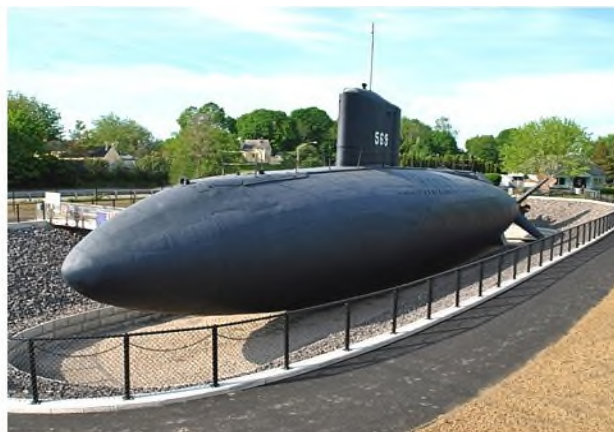
The audience was ready to continue, but unfortunately time expired at this point. All could see the potential for more sessions leading us up through the math of modern times.

*Jim Pope*

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## Visit to Albacore Park and the USS Albacore (AGSS-569) Wednesday July 19, 2017

The third Navy vessel to bear the name, the Auxiliary General Submarine (AGSS) Albacore holds a place in history as the first Navy-designed vessel with a true underwater hull of cylindrical shape that has become the standard for today's submarines worldwide. Designed, built and maintained by the skilled engineers and craftsmen of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Albacore served as a sea-going test platform from 1953 to 1972. Albacore's teardrop-shaped hull was the prototype for the Navy's nuclear powered submarine force and was the first boat built specifically to operate underwater. Prior to Albacore, submarines had been characterized as surface vessels that could submerge. With her revolutionary hull design and state-of-the-art systems, Albacore provided the Navy with an engineering platform to evaluate systems and design features before including them in future classes of submarine. Her motto was Praenuntius Futuri (Forerunner of the Future) and her mission was experimental.





# Harmonica Workshop

For a change of pace for LIRA, twenty-two adventurous folks participated in a harmonica workshop lead by UMass Lowell Professor John Shirley at University Suites on April 29th. Judging from all the smiles, they were glad they did.

Professor Shirley whipped his harmonica out of his back pocket and talked about the benefits of the harmonica which is a friendly instrument that can be carried anywhere and pulled out when the spirit moves you. What began as an instrument to play German folk songs almost 200 years ago has become popular for blues, jazz, country and rock and roll.

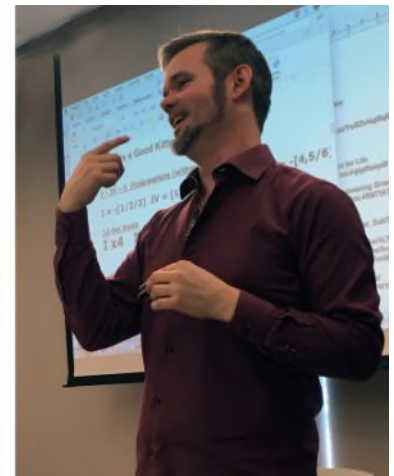
John taught us 'blowing' and 'drawing', how to play chords and single notes and all about embouchure. John demonstrated how he can make his harp (aka harmonica) bend and growl notes and sound oh so bluesy. We progressed from "Zoey is a good kitty" to "Piano Man" with everyone in class sporting their new harmonicas. (John brought harmonicas for sale which soon sold out.) With John as our conductor, we moved up and down the harmonica breathing in and out to his direction. We were actually making music.

We noticed how even gently breathing in (drawing) and out (blowing) with the harmonica gave our lungs exercise. In answer to a question, John said that playing the harmonica does have health benefits so I looked it up and read in the November 1, 2016, Wall Street Journal "*The harmonica is one of the few instruments where breath is both inhaled and exhaled. Medical experts say playing it mimics breath exercises used in pulmonary rehab. It exercised the diaphragm, reduces anxiety, and could help with shortness of breath.*"

Professor John Shirley is Chair emeritus of the Music Department and a Professor of Sound Recording Technology. Among those he studied with was Howard Levy, the Grammy winning harmonica wizard who helped found Bela Fleck & the Flecktones. Professor Shirley got to know Levy during Levy's October 2013 visit to campus for three days of workshops. John said that taking harmonica lessons from Levy was "like starting cello lessons with Yo Yo Ma.

To end the workshop, John played us a harmonica piece with lots of bends and growls for our enjoyment. It was a great class with a classy teacher.

Terri Munson



Professor John Shirley teaching us all about the harmonica.

## Newsletters on Website

**PLEASE NOTE NEW POLICY:** We are now assuming that everyone is reading the newsletter on-line. A hard copy of the newsletter will NOT be mailed to you unless you have contacted Jeri Durant: [jeridurant@gmail.com](mailto:jeridurant@gmail.com). Those members that do not have email will have a hard copy sent to them automatically.

The on-line newsletter is just like the printed one only better - it's in color! This policy will help us to save substantial printing and mailing costs to the university as well as a few trees.

The website for the newsletter is [www.uml.edu/community/LIRA/newsletters.aspx](http://www.uml.edu/community/LIRA/newsletters.aspx)

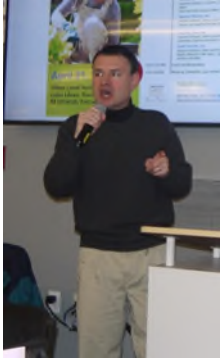


The next newsletter will be out on September 1, 2017; the deadline for news items is August 20, 2017. Please remember that the coordinators are now responsible for getting someone to write an article about their program, if you want something to appear in the newsletter. Articles may be given to me at any time before the deadline.

Jeri Durant

# Lowell Folk Festival

## Folk, Food, Fun, Free



John Marciano gave a very interesting talk on the history, organization and logistics of the Lowell Folk Festival at the LIRA Town Meeting in March. John is the Special Events Coordinator at the Lowell National Park. His primary responsibilities are the Lowell Summer Music Series and the Lowell Folk Festival. John has been involved in producing all 30 Lowell Folk Festivals and another 15 National Folk Festivals in other states.

In the 70's Lowell was an old mill town in decline with many vacant buildings in the downtown area. The first summer arts and music program had one program per week in the Lucy Larcom Park. The National Folk festival is an itinerant folk festival run by the National Council for the Traditional Arts (NCTA). It presents a rich variety of American music: blues, gospel, Cajun, Tex-Mex, bluegrass, Irish, French Canadian, Greek, and many more. For three years (1987-1989) the National Folk Festival was held in Lowell. The hope is that after three years when the National Festival moves to another city local organizations will take over and continue the local folk festival. This worked spectacularly well in

Lowell for many reasons: Lowell Revitalization, strong local leadership and community support, support by the Lowell National Park, Lowell's rich ethnic history and community diversity, and the historic mill buildings and venues like Boarding House Park. The Lowell Folk Festival is the most successful spinoff of the National Folk Festival.

Four elements contribute to the success of the Lowell Folk Festival:

- Folk – Every year the Folk Festival offers an amazing variety of music on five stages. Some of the forms are very familiar – Irish, French Canadian, blues, gospel – and others are quite unusual – Peruvian, Arab, Peking opera.
- Food – To go with the varied music many local ethnic, religious, and community groups have food booths. You can eat your way around the world while enjoying great music.
- Fun – Families, kids, the young and the old all enjoy the music, crowds, and food in a very relaxed atmosphere of summer fun. Though the crowds are large, it is easy to get around and it is a hassle-free experience.
- Free – There is no ticket fee though donations are invited. Many corporations, community organizations, and the National Park contribute to sustain the Festival.

About 1000 volunteers participate to make the Folk Festival happen each year. If you haven't attended the Folk Festival make this the year – invite friends, family, grandchildren! The Lowell Folk Festival is the last weekend in July (July 28-30). [www.LowellFolkFestival.org](http://www.LowellFolkFestival.org)

*Richard Grove*

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## 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. Lecture topics are often related to LIRA's classroom discussions and can include topics such as the Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions series, Science and Literature. At the time of this newsletter, nothing further had been scheduled.

### **Friday, May 12, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.. McCarthy Meeting Room**

Expert Keith West returns for the Marjorie Scoboria Friday Morning Lecture Series to discuss issues pertaining to the South China Sea segment of the Foreign Policy Associations' Great Decisions series. This series is currently being studied by the Learning in Retirement Association at UMass Lowell. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

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)

# A Visit to Sicily with Leon Poirier

The island of Sicily, the size of Massachusetts, is an autonomous region of Italy. Close to its southeastern coast, it is the largest island in the Mediterranean area. It has had a very colorful history, due to numerous invasions by Greeks, Romans, Moors, Byzantines, and Normans.

Palermo is the largest city in Sicily. There are many UNESCO World Heritage sites on the island. One of these is its large cathedral, which took over 770 years to build. Although there are many churches in Sicily, church attendance is low! Another W Heritage site, outside of Palermo, is the Cathedral of Monreale. It was built before the Sistine Chapel. Its mosaics are considered the best examples of Byzantine mosaics in the world.

Cefalù, a small coastal town, outside of Palermo, has dramatic coastal views, which was evident in Leon's photos. It was here where the Moors were expelled from the island by the Normans.

Corleone, once a large city, is the name of the Mafia. It has a lovely public garden and a church on every corner! A lecture was given to the Grand Circle group on the Mafia. As late as 1995, there had been continued violence connected to the notorious Mafia.

Sicily is known for its outstanding ruins from the era of Greek domination on the island. Trapani is the location of the Greek Temple of Segesta, built in the 5th century BC. It is considered to be one of the best preserved of the Greek temples in the area. Agrigento was another area with Greek influence. The most important one is the Temple of Hercules. Due to earthquakes in the area, the Greek ruins were all rebuilt later on. The temples were first used as mosques, then later on, as churches.

The city of Taormina, considered the jewel of Sicily, has long been visited by celebrities from everywhere. The view of the area, overlooking nearby Mt Etna, can be enjoyed by a cable car ride. Mt. Etna, nearly 10,000 feet high, recently erupted.

Leo gave the LIRA many interesting comments on the local culture and inhabitants of Sicily, in addition to the highlights of the history and arts of the island.

*Jean Schott*

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## Great Decisions

*Great Decisions* is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program provides background information and policy options for the eight most critical issues facing America each year. We study an article in the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watch a half-hour DVD that gives an overview of the topic, and then discuss the material. The LIRA Great Decisions group meets on Thursday morning and devotes two two-hour classes to explore each topic in depth. In the spring 2017 semester we discussed:

- **Trade, jobs and politics** – Bob Fesmire led the discussion of US trade policy, slow economic growth and job losses that were major factors in the 2016 election and in President Trump's agenda this year.
- **China and the South China Sea** – Neal Berenson led the discussion of China's attempts to dominate the South China where seven other nations also have strong claims. China has been building and fortifying artificial islands to assert control.
- **Petroleum Geopolitics** – Richard Grove led the discussion of changes in oil markets that affect many countries including Persian Gulf nations, Russia, and the United States which is now an oil superpower.
- **Saudi Arabia** – Janet Redman led a discussion of changes in the relationship between Saudi Arabia and the United States. The US is less dependent on oil imports. Saudi Arabia is looking at reform and transforming their economy to reduce dependence on oil.

We invite you to join us in the fall 2017 semester when we will discuss:

- The European Union
- Latin America
- Afghanistan and Pakistan
- Nuclear Security

For more information about Great Decisions: [http://www.fpa.org/great\\_decisions/](http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/)

## Lowell Walks 2017 schedule

Lowell Walks are free walking tours of Lowell led by knowledgeable tour guides. Walks begin on Saturdays at 10 a.m. from Lowell National Park Visitor Center, 246 Market Street in Lowell. Walks last 90 minutes. No registration is required.

**May 6:** Labor Movement in Lowell with Bob Farrant and Rachel Arnason

June 10: Western Canal with Richard Howe

**June 17:** Underground Railroad & Abolitionism with Bob Farrant and Emily Yunes

**June 24:** Church Art & Architecture with Dave McKeon and Rosemary Noon

**July 8:** Lowell Poems and Places with Paul Marion

**July 15:** Kerouac's Downtown with Sean Thibodeau and Roger Brunelle

**July 22:** Major fires and the Lowell Fire Department with Jason Strunk

**Aug 5:** Northern Canal Urban Renewal and Lowell High with Chris Hayes and Aurora Erickson

**Aug 12:** Hamilton Canal District Update with Lowell Department of Planning and Development

**Aug 19:** Public Health History with Sue Levine and Clare Gunther of Lowell Community Health Center

**Aug 26:** Women and the Mills with Lowell National Historical Park

### Lowell Cemetery Tours

Free 90 minute long guided tours of historic Lowell Cemetery led by Richard Howe on Friday, May 12 at 1 p.m. and Saturday, May 13 at 10 a.m. from Lawrence Street Gate (opposite 1025 Lawrence St).



*Thank you,  
Shirley!*

For the last eighteen years,  
Shirley Mitchell has been

sending out the hard copies of the newsletter. Before our 'Go Green' campaign, this meant sending out a little over 100 copies! Now we are only sending 33 copies. Distributing the newsletter involves making labels for the envelopes, stuffing the envelopes and bringing them back to the university for mailing. She also kept an archive of all the newsletters. If we need to send out a mass mailing, Shirley would provide the addressed envelopes. She has decided that it is time to pass these responsibilities on to a new member. A BIG THANK YOU, Shirley for all you have done over the years.

I also want to thank Charlotte Evans for volunteering to take over the distribution of the newsletter. She has also volunteered to do the calendar that appears in every newsletter. Thanks so much for volunteering!

*Jeri Durant*



On Sat. March 11 LIRA was represented at the Chelmsford Volunteer Fair at the Chelmsford Senior Center. Jean Schott, Bonnie Haines, President, Richard Grove and Beverly Rudeen attended to meet those interested in our association and to tell them about the LIRA program.



## Membership Renewal 2017 – 2018

LIRA membership dues are \$125 (\$200 for couples) for the year July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 and are due by August 15, 2017. A portion of your dues (\$100 of the dues for an individual and \$150 of the dues for a couple) is tax deductible. The University will send each member a receipt for tax purposes. The remaining portion of your dues is returned to LIRA for operational expenses.

A convenient payment method is by credit card 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!” You will receive immediate acknowledgement and receipt after filling out the form.

If you would rather pay by check, use the LIRA renewal form printed in this newsletter. Every member must complete a form; both members of a couple must complete separate information. Send the form(s) and check to the Alumni Office, as stated on the renewal form by August 15, 2017. Because of the confusion it causes, dues checks will be accepted at the Convocation in September **by exception only**.

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 Co-chairs*

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## Member News

We are sad to learn that the mother of John Mamalis passed away in February. Our condolences are extended to John and his family.

Please let me know of any member who would like to be remembered by LIRA and I will send a card.

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

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## Remembering...



Long-time LIRA members will remember Ed Croke. He was a member in the early days and was the first newsletter editor. He actually did the whole newsletter on a typewriter! Ed died on April 7, 2017 at the age of 95.

## Slate of Officers for 2017-2018:

The Nominating Committee would like to present the 2017-2018 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..... Peter Sebelius  
Secretary..... Shirley Mitchell  
Treasurer..... John Mamalis

*Nominating Committee:*  
Carol McCarthy, Chairman  
Simone Allard  
Russ MacLeod

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## Time for a Change

If you want to remain current with LIRA members, make the following changes in your membership list.

Following is an additional correction to the directory along with a returning member.



### *New Members:*

David Brown  
34 Parker Ville Road  
Chelmsford, MA 01824  
Home phone: (978) 256-3943  
Cell phone: (978) 973-4599  
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### Newsletter Committee

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Marge Nardini, Layout & Reproduction	<a href="mailto:mnard1008@verizon.net">mnard1008@verizon.net</a>
Charlotte Evans, Calendar & Distribution	<a href="mailto:chrsnave@aol.com">chrsnave@aol.com</a>
Simone Allard, Member News	<a href="mailto:simone32alard@gmail.com">simone32alard@gmail.com</a>
Jeanne Gunion, Member Spotlight	<a href="mailto:jgunion@comcast.net">jgunion@comcast.net</a>



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

**2017 Summer Intersession**

The 2017 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 Summer Intersession programs.

The on-campus programs are: May 19, June 7, June 14, June 28 and July 12 from 10 a.m. to Noon in University Suites, Room 106, 327 Aiken Street, Lowell.

Please use your parking hangtags wherever you park.

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE:**

**Wed. May 3 Visit to the Whistler Museum of Art, 243 Worthen Street, Lowell, MA 01852**

On display this spring in the Parker Gallery of the Whistler Museum is the exhibit of 65 paintings called *American Impressionism: Harbor Scenes*. The paintings are part of a private collection of Stan Fry. They depict waterfronts in New England and other places in the Northeast. LIRA member, Jean Schott, will discuss the American Impressionist movement. Meet at the Whistler House at 10 a.m. Senior admission is 6 dollars.

Parking can be done at either the Tsongas Center or at the Lowell National Park lot on Dutton Street. Enter that lot on Broadway and Dutton, and exit it there too. From the lot entrance, walk back on Broadway one block to Worthen Street, make a right and the museum will be on the left side of the street. Parking there is free. Tickets taken on entering the lot must be validated at the Park office next to the lot.

Coordinator: Jean Schott\*

**Friday, May 19 Book Discussion, 10 a.m. to Noon - *The Story of a New Name*, by Elena Ferrante**

Coordinator: Toby Hodes^

**May 31 Drumlin Farm, Lincoln MA**

LIRA's Annual Summer walk this year will be at Mass Audubon's Drumlin Farm 208 South Great Road Lincoln, MA 01773 We will have a guided tour of the Farm. There are 4 miles of trails at Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary and there is an easy hike to the top of the Drumlin, one of the highest points in the greater Boston area. Please bring your picnic lunch with you. There is a spot at Drumlin for us to lunch (there is NO food service at Drumlin). There are many ways to drive to Drumlin Farm and directions will be available for those carpooling that morning at the Hannaford parking lot at Drum Hill, Chelmsford. We will leave promptly at 9:00 AM

Coordinator: Nancy Pitkin\*

**June 7 Fire Is Everyone's Fight**

What does the state Department of Fire Services do? How does it affect your life? Jennifer Mieth, public information officer, who has worked for the Office of the State Fire Marshal since 1984 will talk about fire prevention, fire data and public education, fire investigation, firefighter training, and hazardous materials response. You will leave with a clear understanding of your role in the safety of your own community, because fire is everyone's fight.

Coordinator: Nancy Pitkin\*/Suzanne Gamache\*

**June 14 Autism with Ashley Hillier**

Professor Ashleigh Hillier (Department of Psychology, UMass Lowell) will speak about autism spectrum disorder (ASD), particularly in relation to adolescents and young adults. She will give some background information about ASD, how ASD presents, and some recent research in the area. She will also discuss the work of the UMass Lowell Center for Autism Research and Education (CARE).

Coordinator: Nancy Pitkin\*\

**June 14 – Book Discussion, 1-3 p.m. - *Our Kids: the American Dream in Crisis* by Robert Putnam**

Coordinator: Toby Hodes^

**June 21 –Middlesex Canal Museum with Marti Spaulding**

The Middlesex Canal, built between 1793 and 1803 and operational until 1853, was the ultimate super highway of its day. Just 27 miles in length it played a major role in the Industrial Revolution. The Museum is at 71 Faulkner Street, North Billerica. We will meet at Drum Hill, at the Hannaford parking lot to carpool at 9:30 a.m.

Directions: Take RT 3 south to exit 29 (RT 129). At the end of the ramp turn right, toward Billerica. After 1 ¼ miles bear right onto RT 3A south. At the traffic light, (0.1 miles), turn left onto Treble Cove Road. At the three way fork in the road take the middle road (St. Andrew's Church will be on your left). Go ¼ miles and bear right onto Faulkner St. The museum is on your right; parking is on your right, just beyond the falls.

Coordinator: Bob Hanlon\*

**June 28 Hearing Loss and the Ecology of Hearing with Darleen Wilson**

Hearing is like breathing: You generally don't notice it when it is working. But unlike breathing, you may not notice it when it diminishes. This presentation will touch on the mechanics of hearing loss, offer an overview of the assistive technologies available from the hearing aid and consumer electronics industries, discuss the nature and status of audiology services, and provide strategies for dealing with hearing loss – your own or your partner's.

Coordinator: Joan Kerzner\*

**NO PROGRAM JULY 5**

**July 12 Factory Bees with Chris Wilkinson**

There's nothing more political than food. Since 2006, the migrant bee population has been under attack from something called Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). Want more than grains and meat in your diet? Pay attention, the planet is trying to tell us something. Our water, our soil and now our bees are dying. Researchers have frantically been looking at the invasive varroa mite, diseases like Israeli Acute Paralysis virus or the gut parasite Nosema... but in reality it's something much more sinister: our politics and policies are killing our bees, food and future.

Coordinator: Dina Gerosideris\*

**July 19 USS Albacore Submarine and Park, Portsmouth, NH**

Albacore Park is located on the Route 1 By Pass in Portsmouth, NH, about one hour drive from Chelmsford. The tour is at one level with easy access to the interior through large doors at the bow and stern of the Albacore. Inside there are no ladders and few steps and several bulkhead hatches that require a high step up and some flexibility to get through.

We will meet at Hannaford at Drum Hill at 8:30 a.m. to divvy up carpooling duties. We need to leave by 8:45 a.m. to make a 10 a.m. arrival time at Albacore Park. Directions to the park will be handed out to attendees or you can check the web site:

<http://ussalbacore.org/>

Coordinator: Peter Sebelius\*

**July 26 Tower Hill Botanical Garden, Boylston, MA**

We will carpool to Boylston to the Tower Hill Botanical Garden run by Worcester County's Horticultural Society. We will have a 45-minute docent-led tour of the garden with time on our own afterwards to explore further, picnic or eat in their Twig Café or peruse their gift shop. Twig prices are around 10+ for sandwiches or salads. Picnicking is allowed on the grounds. There is handicapped parking and a few wheelchairs if needed. We will plan to meet at the Hannaford parking lot in Chelmsford at 9 a.m. to carpool. Tower Hill is an approximately 45 minute drive from there. We should meet at the Tower Hill entrance around 10 a.m. and the tour will begin at 10:30. Participants should pay the \$9/senior-group price at the gate and let them know that you are with the LIRA group. Directions will be available at the May Annual Meeting and at Hannaford. Maximum number is 25.

Coordinator: Sally Coulter\*

# LIRA's Summer 2017 Intersession

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
May 29	May 30	May 31 A Walk at Mass Audubon's Drumlin Farm. Please bring your picnic lunch. Meet at Hannaford at 9:00a.m. for carpooling	June 1	June 2
June 5	June 6	June 7 10 a.m. to Noon Fire is Everyone's Fight Office of State Fire Marshal Jennifer Mieth University Suites Rm. 106 327 Aiken St.	June 8	June 9 10 a.m. to Noon Chelmsford Library Lecture
June 12	June 13	June 14 10 a.m. to Noon-U. Suites Autism Prof. Ashleigh Hillier 1 to 3 p.m. Book Discussion <i>Our Kids</i> by R. Putnam	June 15	June 16
June 19	June 20	June 21 10 a.m. to Noon Middlesex Canal Museum Carpool from Hannaford at 9:30 a.m.	June 22	June 23
June 26	June 27	June 28 10 a.m. to Noon Hearing Loss and the Ecology of Hearing University Suites Rm. 106 327 Aiken St.	June 29	June 30



<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>July 10</b>	<b>July 11</b>	<b>July 12</b> 10 a.m. to Noon Factory Bees Chris Wilkinson University Suites, Rm. 106 327 Aiken St.	<b>July 13</b>	<b>July 14</b>
<b>July 17</b>	<b>July 18</b>	<b>July 19</b> USS Albacore Submarine and Park Carpool from Hannaford at 8:30 a.m.	<b>July 20</b>	<b>July 21</b>
<b>July 24</b>	<b>July 25</b>	<b>July 26</b> Tower Hill Botanical Garden Carpool from Hannaford at 9:00 a.m.	<b>July 27</b>	<b>July 28</b>
		<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		
<b>September 11</b>	<b>September 12</b>	<b>September 13</b> Convocation 10 a.m. to Noon	<b>September 14</b>	<b>September 15</b>
<b>September 18</b>  Classes begin	<b>September 19</b>	<b>September 20</b>	<b>September 21</b>	<b>September 22</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 \_\_\_\_\_

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? \_\_\_\_\_

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