



# 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)

December 2009

Vol. 16 No. 4

Please join us for

## LIRA's Annual Holiday Potluck Luncheon/Town Meeting

Wednesday, December 9, 2009  
10 AM until Noon

MIL Conference Center, Suffolk Street, Lowell  
(Wannalancit Building)

- \* Two Scholarship Awards will be given.
- \* Hear about our Winter Intersession.
- \* Participate in the Consumable Auction.
- \* Enjoy the good food and meeting with friends.

See inside for the details on what to bring  
for the luncheon, auction and CTI.



## A Visit to Congregation Shalom

On Wednesday, October 7, our group gathered at Congregation Shalom, a reform Jewish Congregation, in North Chelmsford. Rabbi Shoshana Perry welcomed the group and presented a program entitled "Exploring Jewish Sacred Space and the Festival of Sukkot." The program included highlights of the sanctuary space and religious objects. The group viewed stained glass windows that depict various festivals or Bible stories and had an opportunity to examine a variety of Tallit (Jewish prayer shawls). Rabbi Perry also explained how torah scrolls (the first five books of the Bible) are created and opened a Torah so that everyone could examine the ancient Hebrew script. The program also included an explanation of the Festival of Sukkot (the fall harvest festival). Rabbi Perry gave an historical perspective of the holiday and demonstrated some of the ritual objects used during the celebration. At the conclusion of the program, Rabbi Perry answered questions from the group.

The group enjoyed an "oneg" (refreshments). Members of the congregation made and served some traditional Jewish baked goods. The group would like to especially thank Shari Moskowitz for sending delicious, freshly baked challah (traditional braided bread) for our oneg. Shari has recently opened her own challah baking business ("Challahluyah"). Challahs can be ordered by email ([order@challahluyah.com](mailto:order@challahluyah.com)).

Rabbi Perry's presentation was informative and we thank her for a very enjoyable program.

*Judy Miller*

**Please Note:** Rabbi Perry invited all that are interested to attend a series of free classes on *A Taste of Judaism: Are you Curious?* The classes are on March 16, 23 & April 6, 2010 at the Congregation Shalom, 7:30 – 9:30 PM. Even though the classes are free, you will need to register. Contact Judy Miller at [gmliller29@comcast.net](mailto:gmliller29@comcast.net) or 978-256-8466.

## Artist Member in Exhibition

The Whistler House Museum of Art presents its annual juried members exhibition between Nov. 21 and Dec. 31. "Tenants" is a colored pencil work by Connie Lanseigne-Case, inspired by a late afternoon scene in Munster, Alsace. Reception: Saturday Nov.21, 2 pm–4 pm



## Thank You

I would like to thank the LIRA Executive Council and all members for recognizing my ten years as President, by presenting me with a plaque and a gift certificate to La Boniche. I enjoyed those ten years and would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to all of you for your help and support during my tenure.

Thanks again,  
*Don Pattershall*

## LIRA Scholarship Fund Annual Auction

We will hold our annual auction at the LIRA Holiday Party December 9th. The Committee has decided that the auction will be a Consumable Auction once again. The Auction is a major fundraiser for the Scholarship Fund. This year we will be giving \$1500.00 to two University of Lowell students to use towards their education.

What is a Consumable Auction, you ask? It is an auction where all items donated would be consumed i.e., something you eat, drink, do, or use up. The Scholarship Committee sells tickets (\$1.00 ea or 6/\$5.00) and you decide what item(s) you want, and put your ticket(s) in the appropriate container(s). All donations must be brought directly to the Holiday Party location on that day. We will not be collecting items beforehand.

### Items you might like to donate:

Plate of homemade cookies or homemade bread

Candy

Baskets filled with boxes of teas with or without a mug, a pound of coffee with or without a mug, a spa basket, movie snacks with or



without movie tickets, etc.

A bottle of wine

Passes to a movie

Gift certificates of any kind, i.e.,

Dunkin Donuts, Market Basket,

Panera Bread, etc.

Sudoku or Crossword Puzzle Books

### Services You could donate:

If you like to bake you could give a certificate stating that you would make a homemade dessert or a plate of Christmas cookies; to be delivered to the winner at a future date.

If you like animals you might offer to feed, walk, or watch someone's pet.

If you like to drive you might offer to take someone to and from a doctor's or hospital visit, within the Lowell area.

Lessons of any kind, i.e. knitting, crocheting.

The Auction Committee  
*Carol Cannistraro and Pat Dion*

## LIRA Trip to Lowell Cemetery

On Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 20 of us took a tour of the Lowell Cemetery with historian Dick Howe. The cemetery was conceived by a group of prominent Lowell citizens in 1840 as a private, non-sectarian, non-profit corporation.

It was modeled after Mt. Auburn in Cambridge, organized a few years earlier as the first garden cemetery in America. Influenced by the Transcendental Movement and the idea of "God in Nature," these new cemeteries emphasized the physical beauty of the surroundings in sharp contrast to earlier burial grounds which were dispassionate and severe. The incorporators chose an eminent surveyor, George P. Worcester, to design their site with its natural setting of hillocks and trees.

The cemetery was dedicated on June 20, 1841, when there were no parks in Lowell, and it soon became a place for strolling the curved paths and enjoying shrubs and birds close to the city. Plots were sold for \$10, and one could choose any site—under a certain tree, for example. As a result, elaborate monuments of prominent Lowellians are scattered through the grounds with modest graves filling in between.

We began our tour with the grave of Susan Parker, a simple granite stone carved in the 1840's with a weeping willow and an urn, both signs of sorrow. Next was the Hancock monument, dating to 1879, machine-carved marble with an elaborate tree trunk, anchor and rope. The Tucke grave has a large central urn with a circle of differing stones for the members of the family. Josiah Abbot was a judge whose two sons died in the Civil War. The monument lists their engagements and is encircled by upright cannons.

The most famous monument in the cemetery is that of James C. Ayer, who made a fortune in patent medicines. His stone,

portraying a resting lion and dating to 1878, was carved in France by a sculptor who then accompanied it here for installation. Marble is fragile, so the lion is protected in winter by a wooden shed.

James B. Francis, famous for the Francis Gate, designed his own monument in 1892 with granite blocks like the ones he used building the Northern Canal. Some families hired nationally known sculptors. The Lilley family monument was carved by Frank Elwell in 1916 and shows a seated angel with lovely wings and classical drapery.

We learned that a tomb is mostly or entirely under ground, whereas a mausoleum is an above-ground structure. Moses Greeley Parker was a Civil War doctor who worked with Alexander Graham Bell after the war and is credited with the idea of using telephone numbers, thereby obviating the need for operators. The Parker mausoleum has two relief panels depicting Knowledge and Medicine. The bronze figure on the Bonney family mausoleum was also done by Elwell and depicts a woman with a scarf seeming to guard the site. A charming grave is that of harness maker Horace Evert. The stone, carved in 1893, depicts his favorite

chair, complete with pillows and dog-head finials, and with a book on the seat. The Shedd family mausoleum, designed in the Egyptian style, is now used by the cemetery as a "Receiving Tomb" for funerals in the winter when the ground is too frozen to dig; caskets can be stored there until spring.

One particularly touching grave is that of a mill girl Louisa Wells who saved her pennies for a stone to memorialize herself and her mother. When she died, her will was contested by the family for 20 years. Finally the stone was carved by Evelyn Longman, an associate of Daniel Chester French. It depicts the angel of death with her hand on the shoulder of a girl who is holding a bobbin with the thread snapped off.

Because the cemetery abuts the wooded area of Fort Hill Park, deer and hawks are often seen and, once, a moose. We saw a red fox with a beautiful bushy tail.

*Barbara Page*



LIRA members listening to Dick Howe in front of the famous lion, monument for James Ayer. Right is the monument for Horace Evert – his favorite chair.

## Library Notes

If you were unable to enroll in one of our excellent courses or just want to review one, you now have the chance to borrow the videos from the LIRA library. The library is located in the LIRA office on the second floor. DVDs for the following are available: Broadway Musicals, Philosophy and Intellectual History, Doctors, China, and Pharaohs. Older courses on VHS tapes include

Genesis, Beauty and Power of Classical Mathematical Ideas, and Theory of Evolution. Check out by signing the card attached to each set. There is no set time limit for returning the materials but remember that someone else may be waiting. Any questions, see Shirley Mitchell.

## Visit to Old Schwamb Mill

In 1969, the Old Schwamb Mill, situated on a 350 year old mill site in Arlington, MA was slated for demolition. For 200 years, this was the location of a gristmill and saw mill, where water-powered millstones ground grains and spices, and where logs were sawn into planks.

In 1864, Charles and Frederick Schwamb, immigrant woodworkers from Germany, set up a state-of-the-art shop dedicated to the production of the highest quality oval and circular picture frames. A belt-driven shaft and pulley-operated system of machines driven by the water-power of the Mill Brook, along with highest quality craftsmanship, combined to produce elegant picture frames. Four generations of Schwamb descendants operated the mill until 1969.

In a pioneering grassroots industrial preservation effort, the Mill was saved from demolition by a small group of Arlington Preservationists led by Patricia Fitzmaurice. Convinced of the Mill's historical and educational value, they formed the nonprofit Schwamb Mill Preservation Trust to save the Mill for future generations.

Led by Historic Site Administrator, Edward Gordon, a group of LIRA members toured the Mill on October 14. With leather belts and pulleys overhead, frames in stages of completion on the walls, and sawdust everywhere, one is transported back to the mid 1800's. The turner, David Graf, showed us how four curved sections of wood are joined to form an oval and demonstrated how he adds decorative grooves on a frame that is secured to an 1860's vintage lathe. The Old Schwamb Mill is a wonderful place to visit. Website is: [www.oldschwambmill.org](http://www.oldschwambmill.org).

*Carol McCarthy*



Woodcut of the Schwamb Mill created by Marjorie Cohn

## Friends of LIRA

**Please note:** Being a Friend of LIRA entitles you to receive the newsletter but does not allow any other privileges such as parking decals. The \$15.00 fee applies to either a single person or a couple. Winter and summer Intersession programs are open to the general public.

## Persistence Pays Off

We completed the 36 chapter China Course this past semester. It was very long but fascinating. "From Yao to Mao", 5000 years of China History took 3 semesters and I congratulate the attendees for sitting through the 36 lectures.

*Jerry Gilmore*

## Doctors: The History of Scientific Medicine Revealed Through Biography

The popularity of the "Doctors" course may be accounted for by several things. Dr. Sherman Nuland is an excellent lecturer and puts an abundance of information into easily understood comments. Another reason for member response is that the focus was on individuals in the field of medicine who made a difference over the years, with all their special characteristics as human beings. Lastly, the content of the lectures, particularly concerning the heart, was about "us."

In books by Dr. Nuland ("How We Die," and "Wisdom of the Body" are examples) his exhaustive research is evident. This applies to his lectures as well, which were made interesting by maps, charts, drawings, and portraits. In almost every case, we knew what the individual's father did for a living!

A list of lecture titles reveals a comprehensive look at the practice of medicine as it developed with the accumulation of knowledge, spurred on by imaginative thinkers, as well as by those whose strict inclination was toward inductive and deductive reasoning. Lecture titles were: Hippocrates and the Origins of Western Medicine, The Paradox of Galen, Vesalius and the Renaissance of Medicine, Harvey, Discoverer of the Circulation, Morgagni and the Anatomy of Disease, Hunter the Surgeon as Scientist, Laennec and the Invention of the Stethoscope, Morton and the Origin of Anesthesia, Virchow and the Cellular Origin of Disease, Lister and the Germ Theory, Halsted and the American Medication Education,, Taussig and the Development of Cardiac Surgery.

We heard names that were familiar, such as Hippocrates; we were introduced to obscure people who nevertheless contributed in a huge way to solving major problems, such as Rudolf Virchow (born 1821). He took writings of others about the similarities between plants and animals and furthered the understanding that all organic life is built the same way—from cells. Copies of the course outline were available and some members created a book of the "Doctors" lectures. Our own Dr. Alan Kent contributed to every session not only with anecdotes from his experience but with answers to questions generated by the video lectures.

In 12 lectures, it was not possible to cover every invention, nor every advancement in technique, nor all discoveries in the biochemical sphere. Perhaps Dr. Nuland will gather details in areas such as vaccination or gene therapy, and we'll have a chance to go along with him again to understand medical matters through biography.

*Dorothy Bromage*

## Member News

Barbara Arnold is at home recuperating from a fall which caused injuries to her nose and shoulder.

Ann Dahlman is now at home recuperating from her knee surgery. Hope we see you both soon!

Kay Carroll will send cards to members who are ill. If you know of an ailing member please email her at [Fckc12345@comcast.net](mailto:Fckc12345@comcast.net) or call 978-453-0694.

*Kay Carroll*

## Email Notification

At the Fall Convocation many people signed up to have class cancellations emailed to them. Those people should make sure that they check their email in the morning if there is any doubt about a class being held. If there are others that would like to be on this email list, please notify Barbara Willman at 978-251-8770 or [bkwillman@earthlink.net](mailto:bkwillman@earthlink.net). Those not on the list will be notified by telephone. The following is the policy for class cancellations.

*Barbara Willman*

## Class Cancellations

### Importance of Signing up for Courses

At times, unforeseen circumstances will necessitate the cancellation of a class or program. You will be notified of the cancellation if you have signed up for the course. Courses are open to all LIRA members and it is advisable that you sign up for a course even if you are unable to attend all of the classes.

However, if you want to attend one of the sessions and you have not signed up for the course, it is best to call the Class Coordinator or Toby Hodes to ascertain that the class or program is still scheduled for that day.

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

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

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## Scholarship Update

We have received scholarship applications from 15 bright and very interesting students. The committee met on Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> to study them all and choose the winners of the two \$1500 scholarships, which will be presented at the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. At a later date, we will make the applications available to the LIRA members so that they can see the variety of interests and work these students are involved in. Also, to see the esteem they hold for their school.

The Scholarship Committee would like to thank the members that have generously donated \$805.00 and helped to make our scholarships possible. The donations to the coffee fund also go to the scholarship fund – that portion that is not needed to supply our refreshment cart. The proceeds from the Consumable Auction will also go to the fund. Thanks to all for your donations.

*LIRA Scholarship Committee  
Mary Jane Myers, Chair  
Betty Bayard  
Kay Carroll  
Jerry Gilmore  
Mary Welch*

## Looking at a Symphony

Well, Dorothy Bromage has treated us again! You really missed something if you did not come to the Art & Music program entitled “Looking at a Symphony” on November 4, 2009. Dorothy explained that this program was really a continuation of last spring’s April 8<sup>th</sup> program about the symphony when there was difficulty with the audio-visual equipment.

This time she continued with Tchaikovsky’s music. She had videos with music that illustrated the wide use of Tchaikovsky’s music in the present day. The “Waltz of the Flowers” was shown as being played on a piano roll. And then it was heard in a tribute to television weatherman, Dick Albert, as he tried to stay upright during a New England ice storm! She also cited a 1937 Chevrolet commercial, “The March of the Tools,” using the third movement of the Sixth Symphony, the familiar music from “The Nutcracker Suite” during a television episode of “The Reaper,” and the “1812 Overture” with cannons and fireworks.

The program then began in earnest by our introduction to two music students - flautist Lindsey Sherman and bassoonist Anna Pearson who are studying at the School of Music at UMass Lowell. (This part of the university has had an outstanding reputation in music education for many years; even before the Lowell campus of UMass was formed.) Each student showed us her instrument and then played selections on it. Lindsey demonstrated a number of sounds the flute can make, then played a Poulenc Sonata, an excerpt from the Mozart Concerto in G, some Irish music, and the “Zoom Tube.” Anna described the parts and range of a bassoon and then demonstrated the sounds of the bassoon as a double reed instrument. She played from the Mozart B flat bassoon concerto and the first movement from the Hindemuth Bassoon Sonata.

This was very helpful when Dorothy called our attention to her musical instrument chart and to the handouts on the make-up of an orchestra as related to Tchaikovsky’s “Fourth Symphony.” These handouts included a chart showing where Tchaikovsky fitted historically, into the Romantic Era from 1815 to 1900. There was also a brief biography and a page from the symphony’s score.

After the break we were treated to a concert of Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 4 in F minor, Opus 36 as played by the New York Philharmonic and led by the conductor Lorin Maazel. This performance was broadcast on television on the *Opening Night Gala* in Avery Fisher Hall September 26, 2008 and had been captured on video by Dorothy.

An aside - a photographer from the Lowell Sun was present and took some pictures of our visiting musicians and of our audience for an article in the paper. So keep watching the Sun!

*Jeanne Gunion*

## Missing the Jack's and Opera!!

When I was a new member of LIRA I took the Jack's course on opera. That course opened the door to me to an appreciation of opera. The Jack's also let us in on the secret of the Metropolitan Opera's High Definition performances at our local movie houses!

Really, you can actually go to one of any number of movie theaters that show the simultaneous broadcast of certain operas performed on a Saturday afternoon. (Remember the Saturday afternoon radio broadcasts that were a staple of radio in the cold weather seasons?) Then there is an encore performance on a following Wednesday evening.

The best way to access this opportunity is to go to the Metropolitan Opera web site and find the Met Opera in HD. Click that and you will find the schedule for this year and which movie cinemas are broadcasting in your local area. Lowell is one of them. These performances are broadcast simultaneously on Saturday all over our country and the world.

When you attend one of these performances you will be hosted by a famous opera singer, you will meet the principals, you will see scene changes behind the scenes, and other treats will be in store for you. This is really an outstanding experience whether you think you like opera or not. Go to Metropolitan Opera on line and look for the HD section on the web page.

*Jeanne Gunion*

Website: [metoperafamily.org/metopera/broadcast/hd\\_events\\_current.aspx](http://metoperafamily.org/metopera/broadcast/hd_events_current.aspx)

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## Publicity for LIRA

Recently we have been able to get some notices about LIRA in local press publications. For the week of November 5, 2009 the "Chelmsford Independent" published an article about the award for which LIRA honored Don Pattershall for his ten years of service as President. Perhaps you have also seen one of the two weekly issues of the "Action Unlimited" in which there was a notice that describes LIRA, its offerings and how LIRA can be reached. This publication comes in the mail every Saturday to all the homes in Chelmsford and other communities. A photographer from the "Lowell Sun" came to Dorothy Bromage's musical program on Tchaikovsky's "Fourth Symphony".

So we will continue to try to tap into as many local sources of publicity as we can. If anyone has suggestions to help accomplish this they are welcome to email me at [jgunion@comcast.net](mailto:jgunion@comcast.net) or call me by phone at (978) 251-7207.

In the meantime spread "the word" to your friends and acquaintances about LIRA. It is nice to offer to introduce perspective members to the group by bringing them or by asking a present member to provide transportation so that they have a way to come without getting a ticket! Remember that the Wednesday intercession programs are free to all with no membership requirements.

*Jeanne Gunion*

## The Secrets of Tomb 10A

At the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, you can see what the grave robbers left. In Egypt around 2000 BC, Tomb 10A was the burying place for Djehutynakht, a governor in the Middle Kingdom. For the first time since the painted coffins, cult objects, walking sticks, vessels, furniture, and jewelry were placed in the tomb, they have been re-assembled and are being shown in the MFA exhibit which is running until May 16.

Among the items included in the tomb were nearly 60 wooden boats with special symbolic significance. These and the other contents of Tomb 10A will be complemented by a selection of Middle Kingdom sculptures from other sites. Information at [www.mfa.org](http://www.mfa.org).

*Dorothy Bromage*



Example of wooden boats found in Tomb 10A

## Wellesley College Tour

On Wednesday, October 21, twenty of us visited the chapel at Wellesley College. We began with a demonstration of the Fisk Organ by student Jacob Street. The Fisk is modeled after two 17<sup>th</sup> century organs, and is tuned to mean tones. Hence, for example, G sharp and A flat are two different keys. (This system annoyed Bach so much that he developed the well-tempered clavier, the keyboard tuning we use today.) Behind the organ pipes is a large bellows which is now electrified but was formerly powered by "calcants" – boys who hopped up and down on huge levers.

After the demonstration, we were treated to a concert by Jacob. The three sets of pipes have different "voices" – some bright, some more nasal. The sound was spectacular in the chapel space.

Then Dean Kazanjian took us on a tour. The chapel has been extensively renovated in the last two years. The stained glass windows have been cleaned and repaired. The lower level, formerly storage, is now the Interfaith Area, reflecting the religious diversity of the last 20 years. We toured rooms for study, meditation, worship, prayer, and gatherings. Beautiful, contemplative artifacts abound.

We were lucky to have a beautiful fall day and finished our tour with lunch at the College Club on the lake.

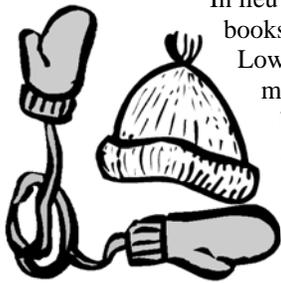
*Barbara Page*

# Holiday Party Details

RSVP to your contact person to let her know whether or not you plan to be at the Holiday Party. If you plan to attend, please let her know what you will bring. (If you would prefer to bring something other than your 'assigned' pot luck item please swap with someone else and let your contact person know.) **Please provide a serving utensil if your dish requires one.** It would also be helpful if you made a sign to identify your dish. There will be members at the door on Suffolk Street to take your dishes from you so that you won't have to carry them from the parking lot.

- If your last name begins with the letters **A thru K**, bring a **Main Dish**.
- If your last name begins with the letters **L thru R**, bring a **Salad or Side Dish**.
- If your last name begins with the letters **S thru Z**, bring a **Dessert**.

Contact person	Members (last name)	Please Bring
Shirley McCaffrey 978-251-4437	<b>A – K</b> Allard – Knapp (38)	<b>Main Dish</b> (hot or cold)
Madeline Pattershall 978-256-6084	<b>L – R</b> Lanseigne-Case – Rubenstein (24)	<b>Salad or Side Dish</b>
Elizabeth Bayard 978-452-5363	<b>S – Z</b> Sampas – Zahos (16)	<b>Dessert</b>



In lieu of exchanging gifts, LIRA members have donated many new books in past years for distribution by Community Teamwork, Inc. of Lowell, the agency which serves families in shelters and oversees many child care programs in the City. Each book is marked with a bookplate denoting that it is a gift from Learning In Retirement Association. Books should be suitable for children, ages three through teens. In the past, there has been a desperate need for hats and mittens for children, ages up to 12 years old. We have decided to continue to bring these, also. **Please bring a new book and/or hat and mittens, unwrapped, to the Holiday party.** Thanks for your participation.



*Sally Cady*

## Great Pharaohs of Ancient Egypt

If you did documentaries including an award-winning television series on "Pyramids, Mummies & Tombs". His latest book, "The Secret of thnot attend this past semester's course on the Pharaohs, you missed a great class! The lecturer, Dr. Bob Brier, was very animated and kept us in suspense several times as he unraveled many of the great mysteries of Ancient Egypt.

The lectures spanned about 30 centuries from 3150 B.C. to 30 B.C. He began with King Narmer who unified Egypt around 3150 B.C. King Sneferu, the builder of pyramids, is the next king in the series. The powerful, female pharaoh, Hatshepsut, was the next great pharaoh covered. The next lecture focused on Akhenaten and Queen Nefertiti whose famous son Tutankhamen, was the subject of the next two lectures. We witnessed the expedition that first discovered Tutankhamen's tomb in 1922 and then Professor Brier tells of his own theory that Tutankhamen was actually murdered. Ramses the Great and his 67 year reign, the longest reign of all the pharaohs, was covered in the next 2 lectures. The Great Nubians, Alexander the Great, the First Ptolemies and finally Cleopatra, the last pharaoh, were discussed in the last four lectures.

The class was further enhanced by Connie Lanseigne-Case as she read from her diary that was written on her trip to Egypt in the 1960's. As we traveled through Egypt during the lectures, Connie would read about her experiences at the same places, such as the Valley of the Kings, Karnak and Luxor. During the last class, she showed us her slides of her trip. Thanks, Connie, it was a great addition to the class!



As an aside, I learned that Professor Brier has been given the nickname "Mr. Mummy" because he is the first person in 2,000 years to mummify a human cadaver using the exact techniques of the ancient Egyptians. He has written several books on Egypt and has done several e Great Pyramid," was published in September 2008.

As mentioned in this newsletter, the DVD for this course is available for checking out of the LIRA library that is in the LIRA office on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Wannalancit building.

*Jeri Durant*

# Moses Greeley Parker Lectures

The following is a calendar of events for the Parker lecture series held on the day, time and place noted. The lectures are free and open to the public.

## DEC. 3, 2009 POLLARD LIBRARY - 7 PM THURSDAY

### "The Coconut Grove Fire" by Stephanie Schorow

The Coconut Grove Fire, Nov. 28, 1942, which killed nearly 500 people, led to major changes in fire and safety codes, manslaughter law as well as innovations in burn treatments and post-traumatic shock psychology. Ms. Schorow will talk about the impact of this fire and the 1872 Great Fire of Boston and their lingering mysteries.

## DEC. 6, 2009 NATIONAL PARK VISITOR CENTER - 2:00PM SUNDAY

### "The Fence" by Dick Lehr

Dick Lehr tells the true-life story of how Michael Cox, an African American plainclothes officer, was brutally beaten in 1995 by his fellow police officers when he was mistaken for a murder suspect. When Michael needed the BPD to stand up for him, he came up against the infamous blue wall of silence. THE FENCE follows Cox's transformation from beating victim to lonely crusader for justice in his federal civil rights lawsuit against his assailants, the Boston Police Department and the city.

## JAN. 10, 2010 NATIONAL PARK VISITOR CENTER - 2:00PM SUNDAY

### "Water Power in Lowell" by Patrick M. Malone

Patrick M. Malone is a professor of urban studies and American civilization of Brown University. His latest book demonstrates how innovative engineering helped make Lowell, Massachusetts, a potent symbol of American industrial prowess in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Malone explains how engineers created a complex canal and lock system in Lowell that harnessed the river and powered mills throughout the city.

The next newsletter will be out on March 1, 2010; the deadline for news items is February 15, 2010. 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

## 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:

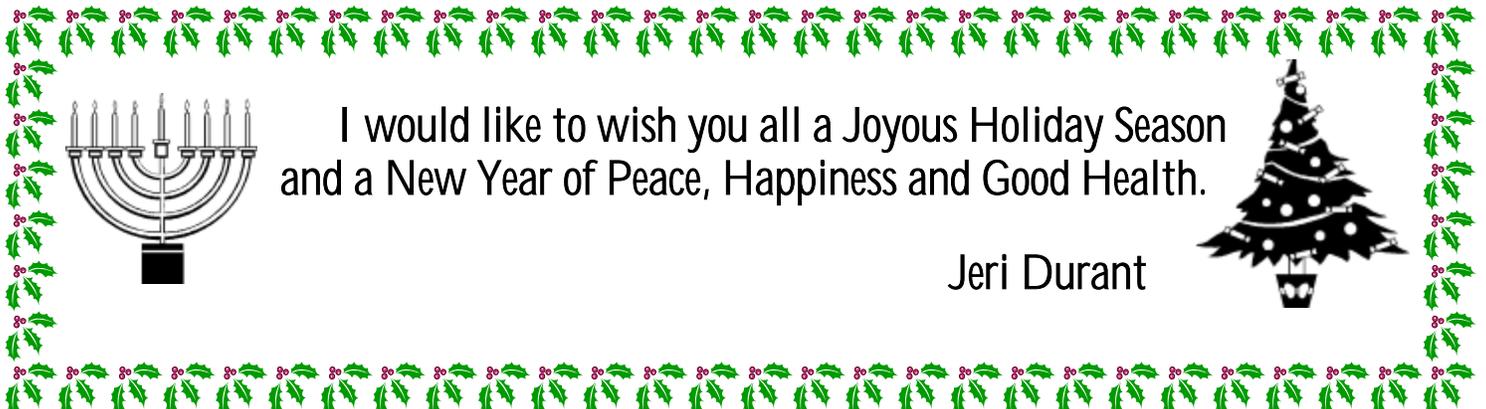
Jean Dettman  
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### Email changes:

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Richard & Carolyn Curtin  
XC1runner@aol.com

## Newsletter Committee

Geraldine Durant, Editor & Calendar	jeri@netway.com
Suzanne Knapp, Layout & Reproduction	knapp.sc@gmail.com
Shirley Mitchell and Sally Cady, Distribution	shirleytm2@aol.com
Kay Carroll, Member News	Fckc12345@comcast.net



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

Jeri Durant

