Join us for LIRA’s Fall Convocation

Tuesday, September 13, 2016
10 a.m. to Noon

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

Hear about the Fall Schedule.
Sign up for classes.
Refreshments will be served.
Guest Speaker is Dr. Frank Talty.
Fall Convocation

The LIRA Fall Convocation Tuesday September 13th marks the beginning of a new year of learning and fellowship. It is a time to greet old friends, share summer experiences, and welcome new members to LIRA. Take the opportunity to talk with someone you don’t know.

Our Convocation speaker is Dr. Frank Talty who taught the very popular Presidential Election 2016 course last fall and spring. He will talk about the conventions, recent events, and the upcoming Presidential Debates. We are delighted that he will teach an additional four weeks this fall, with the last class occurring November 10th, two days after the election. What a unique and amazing election year it has been!

LIRA will present a gift of $1000 to the University’s “Our Legacy, Our Place” fundraising campaign to be used for scholarships. And the Scholarship Committee has recommended that we award six $1500 scholarships this year to UMass Lowell students.

Fall Convocation is the time to hear detailed information about the curriculum and to sign up for classes. Plan to catch the 9:00 bus so you will have time to get your parking hang-tag and socialize before the meeting begins at 10:00.

Richard Grove, LIRA president

Details for Fall Convocation

The Fall Convocation will be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2016 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 summer intersession.

Please bring your filled-out hangtag form from the last page of the newsletter along with a check for $70.

Hope to see you all there!

LIRA’S Scholarship Fund Annual Auction

We will hold our annual auction at the LIRA Holiday Party on December 7. We have decided that the auction will be a “Consumable Auction” once again. The Auction is a major fundraiser for the Scholarship Fund. This year LIRA will be giving $1500.00 scholarships to six UMass Lowell students.

What is a Consumable Auction? It is an auction where all donated items can be consumed, i.e., you eat it, drink it, do it or use it up. The Committee sells tickets: $1 per ticket, $5 for 6 tickets or $10 for 15 tickets. You decide what item(s) you want and put your ticket(s) in the appropriate container(s). All donations must be brought directly to Cumnock Hall on the day of the party.

Some things you might donate:

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

Suggestions for Baskets you can make:

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

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

Sheila Pariseau

The Holiday Party is scheduled for Wednesday, December 7. More details about the party will appear in the next newsletter.

LIRA DVD Lending Library

We are looking to establish a DVD lending library for LIRA members. The DVDs would be comprised of LIRA owned Great Courses/other DVDs from prior LIRA classes and any additional DVDs that members who have presented a class may wish to contribute to the library. If anyone has any of these DVDs at home, please contact Dina Gerosideris at gatakette@yahoo.com. Thank you!
Alcohol and its Effects on the Body

Kathleen L. Tucker is a Professor of Nutritional Epidemiology at UMass Lowell. She is the forerunner at the Center for Health Disparities and Population Health, undertaking the nutrition problems in our society today. Alcohol and its Effects on the Body was presented on July 20th at University Suites to our LIRA members with well documented slides.

Alcohol is a disease and nutrition can be problematic especially with alcohol abuse and its negative effects on the body. Statistics show that 65% of adults consume alcohol. However, 5% of this group is excessive. Long term heavy use of alcohol can lead to liver damage, immune system disorders and brain damage. Also, diseases of Diabetes, Osteoporosis, Cardiac disorders and risks of cognitive decline and dementia are apparent. The human body requires certain nutrients to function properly. The overuse of alcohol can interfere with the body's ability to meet sufficient nutritional requirements. Normal digestion of nutrients is impaired causing harm to the Gastro Intestinal tract and interrupting secretions of enzymes necessary for digestion. In addition, the ability of the liver to store up vitamins is impeded.

However, moderate amounts of alcohol is recommended for women to have one beverage daily and two drinks every day for men preferably red wine or beer. There are health benefits for moderate intake of alcohol such as reduction of anxiety and stress, lowering cardiovascular diseases, especially cholesterol and appetite stimulation in the elderly population.

Research signifies that the Mediterranean Diet is recommended because of the reduction in certain cancers, decrease in the risks for cardiac diseases and Alzheimer’s disease.

There are circumstances where some people should not drink at all. Alcohol interferes with persons taking certain medications by diminishing the effect of those drugs. Women who are pregnant or those inclined to become pregnant and people with a family history of alcoholism should abstain. Lastly, individuals who are alcohol dependent should refrain completely and may need help with their abstinence.

Colored Glass Magic

Examples of dazzling colored and stain glass mosaic works by Marlowe Miller, delighted LIRA members at a late April Wednesday meeting. Many were unfamiliar with her meticulous, artistic process of creating art by arranging glass fragments. Her selection and placement of shapes and sizes, warm and cool contrasting colors, lights and darks, appears to be much like piecing together an abstract puzzle. Marlow, a multi-talented UMass Lowell English professor, presented photos and had a few small sample windows of varied glass works. The first delightful views were of a column in her home transformed into a tree whose branches and leaves reach out onto the ceiling. Another, is an unforgettable glass – encrusted manikin figure which resides in the family garden. The fairy like statue, fitted with a flared skirt designed by her sculptor husband, sports commercial glass (some faded by sunlight) and stain glass.

The Cambridge resident used grout to bond glass to interior surface images like the tree. Old windows with clear glass are transformed into giant sun catchers using glue as the adhesive. Sharp edges on the cut pieces are smoothed down using a Dremel tool fitted with sandpaper. Once the mosaic is completed, it is coated with a dark grout which further transforms and highlights textures in the glass.

It is evident from the numerous steps Marlowe Miller engages in to create her magic, it is a time consuming artistic technique, one that brings her and recipients pleasure.

Connie Lanseigne-Case

Member News

Well, no news is good news. I am happy to say that I have heard of no one on the sick list. Guess it means that all have had a healthy and enjoyable summer.

Do continue to advise me of anyone who would like to be remembered with a greeting card.

Simone Allard - simone32allard@gmail.com - 603-943-7527
LIRA Members work on an assembly line at the Lowell National Historical Park Tsongas Industrial Center

A hardy group of LIRA members were subjected to jeers, taunts, and all manner of derogatory comments as *Workers on the Line* at Lowell National Historical Park’s Tsongas Industrial Center at the June 8th intersession. After the exacting overseer, Seth Cooper, taught LIRA members their jobs as Mill City Print Workers, he was initially very critical of poor workmanship. Much of their hard work was thrown away (in recycle bins). Once they learned the job, Mr. Cooper reduced their wages, increased their boardinghouse costs, and sped up the line. When the line was moving efficiently, Mr. Cooper dismissed some of the workers and had people take over two jobs for the same $3 a week. In protest, spunky LIRA members organized and began a work slowdown. For their daring demonstration of initiative, the cruel Mr. Cooper summarily fired everyone and threatened to add their names to the dreaded blacklist. Despite the verbal abuse, the LIRA members smiled and laughed throughout the exercise. They learned a lot about life as a mill worker in the early 1800’s and got a sense of what it was like to do tedious work 10 to 12 hours a day. In addition to the *Workers on the Line* activity at the Tsongas Industrial Center, LIRA members enjoyed lunch in the Boott Mills West inner court-yard, visited the Boott Cotton Mills Museum and Mill Girl Museum, and hopped aboard a trolley.

Terri Munson

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**Reading China from the Villages:**
*Grassroots Change in 20th and 21st Century China*

Linda Grove

Chelmsford Library Lecture Series
Friday September 9th, 10:00 AM

Contemporary images of China feature dramatic photos of the Shanghai skyline, high-speed trains, markets overflowing with export goods, an aggressive military in the South China Sea, and much more. Forty years ago when Deng Xiaoping launched the "reform and opening up" policies, 80% of the Chinese population lived in villages and spent their days working in the fields. This talk will focus on rural China, and the transformation in lives at the grassroots level over the last 40 years, based on the speaker's field work in six North China villages between 1980 and the present. What did the end of socialism mean for individuals and their families and what has become of centuries-old customs and culture as China has rapidly pursued urbanization and modernization.

Linda Grove earned her PhD at the University of California at Berkeley in 1975 and taught Chinese history for 35 years at Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan. She is the author of several books and articles in English, Japanese, and Chinese.
Boston’s Grand Lodge

On July 13th twenty-one LIRA members and friends enjoyed a visit to The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, headquarters for the Masons in Massachusetts. Located at the corner of Tremont and Boylston Street, just across from Boston Common, many people have wondered about the decorated panels on the building’s façade. R. W. Walter Hunt, Librarian and Historian for The Grand Lodge, gave us a tour through the building as he explained Masonic symbols and the meaning of the fraternal organization.

He showed us beautiful and grand meeting rooms and historical portraits of Massachusetts Masons including Paul Revere. Some meeting rooms included portraits of other important Masons such as George Washington and Benjamin Franklin.

We ended our tour at The Samuel Crocker Lawrence Library housed at The Grand Lodge. Walter showed us one of the important volumes in their collection, a letter book (copy of correspondence) of John Paul Jones, written in his French script.

Walter noted that the public is welcome to search the library’s on-line catalog for information in researching ancestry. To find out about an ancestor’s Masonic background, log on to https://massmasons.org/educate/

We ended our visit with a picnic and a stroll on Boston Common.

Beverly Rudeen

Historical Grand Pianos

Nine LIRA members and friends travelled to Ashburnham on July 27 to tour the Frederick Collection of Historical Grand Pianos.

The Fredericks’ have been collecting these wonderful instruments since the beginning of their marriage. They date from the late 1700s to early in the 20th century. Patricia Frederick gave us an in-depth lecture on almost all of the 27 pianos in their collection. She also regaled us with her artful playing and her very accomplished singing voice. Jeri’s granddaughter ended our tour by skillfully playing a piece for everyone to enjoy.

Patricia Frederick telling us about the piano from Beethoven’s time. This is the piano he would have played before he became deaf. Notice the color of the keys is reversed.

Jacki Durant is playing Beethoven’s Moonlight Sonata on the same piano.

Beverly Rudeen

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.

Friday, September 9, 10 a.m. to Noon McCarthy Meeting Room

"Reading China from the Villages: Understanding Grassroots Change in 20th and 21st Century China" presented by Linda Grove, PhD

At the time of this newsletter, there are no more lectures scheduled. Check the library’s website for further information. www.chelmsfordlibrary.org/programs/lecture-series/
Highlight on the Strings

I had heard of the UMass Lowell String Project but never understood what it was. When UMass Lowell cellist Natalia McDermott and violist Alexia Hernandez came to LIRA, the first subject of their presentation was all about the String Project. Students go to an elementary or middle school and explain the program. Given acceptance of it, a schedule begins with children attending after school and learning all about the strings, even holding actual instruments. The age level of children begins at 8.

For all UMass Lowell students in the Music Department, music education is stressed. For Natalia and Alexia, a visit to LIRA adds well to their resume. With their excellent slides, we learned about the structure of string instruments violin, viola, cello, and bass, including bows. Each of them played a short solo; then they collaborated on a piece written for viola and cello. Good presenters field varied questions and this was true of Natalia and Alexia.

Best Wishes, Dorothy!

At the Annual Meeting in May, Richard Grove presented Dorothy Bromage with a beautiful bouquet of flowers as a small ‘thank you’ for all she has done for LIRA in the last nineteen years. A video of pictures was shown that captured the many programs that Dorothy has presented.

We wish her well in her new home. Her new address is Dorothy Bromage
168 Academy Street #109
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
845-473-0327
Email: dorothybromage@gmail.com

A round of applause should be given to the Curriculum Committee for a great summer intersession. As you can see from this month’s newsletter, we had excellent programs; they were varied and interesting! Thanks to all who made the arrangements.

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. 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
Remembering Barbara Page

Barbara Page was an active member of LIRA since 2004. She had chaired the Art & Music Committee since 2009 where she arranged many great programs. Her knowledge of all kinds of films was apparent when she coordinated a Films class for seven years where we saw documentaries, foreign films, drama, comedy, silent films and many classics. She also gave a couple of presentations showing her amazing talent as an archaeological illustrator. She will be greatly missed. LIRA has donated $50 to the Scholarship Fund in her memory. For those of you that didn’t see the obituary, a portion of it from the Boston Globe follows.

Jeri Durant

PAGE, Barbara (Carpenter) 83, of Lowell, a woman with a wonderful sense of humor and incredible zest for life, left the beautiful planet she loved on April 29, 2016, after a brief illness. An Art History graduate from Wellesley College, she worked as an archaeological illustrator for the Peabody Museum of Cambridge. Lover of knowledge, literature, culture and reading, she was active in a book club and the Learning and Retirement Association. A significant donor and fundraiser for the Merrimack Repertory Theatre and humane philanthropist, she contributed to many environmental, political, educational, arts and animal protection organizations including those saving cats both large and small. She rescued many cats from shelters, most recently dear Tiger Lily and Oscar.

Always, it was interesting and fun to share time with Barbara. An easily recalled morning was at The Museum of Fine Arts which she had organized as Art and Music Coordinator. Together we marveled and discussed the remarkable stone panels from the British Museum of the Assyrian palace and temple of Nimrud in present day Iraq (ISIS leveled the site.) She loved and wore fine jewelry, so we followed that with the Art Nouveau special exhibit which also received our close, admiring examination. She shared a wealth of knowledge about the choice of stones in their varied artistic settings.

Her interests and knowledge were surprisingly and delightfully varied. While I briefly was hospitalized, Barbara visited bringing the charming children’s book, “The Bat Poet” by Randall Jarrell and illustrated by Maurice Sendak. The bat was unique, he couldn’t sleep in the daytime so in his poetic fashion, he went about wanting those he encountered to see the world as he marveled at it. In many ways Barbara shared her unique life with us in LIRA for too short a time.

Connie Lanseigne-Case

Barbara was such a cheerful creative lady. I appreciate all she did for LIRA. She was a willing helper who added to our knowledge and fun.

During one of my first luncheons with Barbara after a LIRA field trip, we both noticed they had beer on the menu. I didn’t feel comfortable drinking a whole one as I was driving. Barbara offered to share it. We did and I remember thinking “This is s great group! I’m going to enjoy these people.”

Claire Frassica

Six Scholarships to be Awarded

The LIRA Executive Board has voted to award six $1500 scholarships to six full-time, through May 2017, UMass Lowell junior or senior students with a grade point average of 3.0 or better and who also participate in community service activities. Your generous contributions in the past have made this possible and we will be soliciting contributions when the fall semester gets underway. Certificates of awards will be given at the Holiday Party in December. Each $1500 will be deposited directly into the students’ accounts by the University.

Remember if you have relatives who meet these qualifications, they can apply for one of the scholarships as long as they are students at UMass Lowell.

Sincere thanks from the Scholarship Committee for all your help:

Co-Chairs: Janet Redman & Deanne Sferrino
Simon Allard
Alan Kent
John Mamalis
Alan McKersie
Dottie Morris
Barbara Murch
Spotlight on Betty Bayard

Everybody knows and loves Betty. She is always cheery and welcoming to new and “old” members. It was Jean Dettman who urged her to join. I believe she is one of the almost “original” members of LIRA.

Betty was born on Loring St. in So. Lowell on July 15, 1920. She was the youngest of 10 children and she became the “pet” among them all! MUSIC has been a lifelong interest. While Betty was attending public school in Lowell she took piano lessons and her family thought that she should become a pianist. In fact she continued taking piano lessons and organ lessons through her days at business college in Boston.

Betty’s first job was in Boston in the area of Faneuil Hall so she became a commuting “city” girl. While on summer vacation at Hampton Beach with a friend she signed up to become a member of the WAAC’s (Woman’s Auxiliary Army Corps). Three of her brothers were already in the service as this was the time of WWII. Everyone who wanted to “help” with the war effort was encouraged to contribute in some way if they had not been drafted. So Betty chose to join the Army.

Betty was sent to Fort Oglethorpe in Georgia for six weeks special training as a nurse. Her first assignment was on Staten Island, NY working at a large General Army hospital. This was followed by an assignment at an area station hospital in the Bronx, NY working with soldiers who were recuperating from battle wombs. Finally she was sent on assignment to Utica, NY at a General Army hospital where she worked on the wards.

During this assignment she met and married her husband who was a captain in the Army. He had been assigned to the medical corps in the South Pacific where he was injured. In Utica he was recuperating from ulcer wombs that would recur throughout his life. As he was originally from Oakland, CA Betty and he moved to California after the war. Then he took a position as a salesman for a drug company. This required that he and Betty live in various states including Oregon, New Mexico, Texas, and Florida. Their last location was in Princeton, NJ.

At the same time Betty also took a number of different jobs. One memorable job was working for the Educational Testing Service in Princeton. She was responsible for making sure that the tests were going out to the students and that they were getting delivered on time.

In 1964 Betty’s husband died and she returned home to Massachusetts to help with the care of her parents. By 1966 Betty had started working at Fort Devens at the Army Community Service Center. She was the only civilian who was part of G1 Headquarters. This involved typing legal dispositions of court martial cases.

While still at Fort Devens Betty resumed her music interests. She started taking organ lessons and became the organist at the United Church of Christ in Dracut, MA. She left her assignment at Fort Devens and in 1972 Betty started playing the organ at St. John’s Episcopal Church in Lowell. She did that for 28 years until 2000.

Jeanne Gunion

Thank you

President, Richard Grove, presenting our favorite professors with a book and gift card in appreciation for the courses they taught in the 2016 spring semester.

Bob Forrant on the left received the book *The Rise and Fall of American Growth: The U.S. Standard of Living since the Civil War* by Robert J. Gordon.

Frank Talty on the right received the book *Listen Liberal* by Thomas Frank.
From the Editor

Producing a newsletter involves many people, not only those that write the articles but those that put it all together and send it to you. Thank you to all those that make it possible: the contributors, Shirley Mitchell for labeling, folding, sealing and mailing them out and a big thank you to Marge Nardini for taking over the layout from Suzanne Knapp and doing such a great job. Among the contributors for every issue, Simone Allard keeps up with the member news and sends cards to our members, Jeanne Gunion coordinates the ‘Member Spotlight’ feature and Nancy Pitkin prepares the schedules. Thanks so much to all of you for your hard work. Suggestions, new ideas, comments or criticisms are welcome.

A reminder is being sent to everyone that has email in the hopes that more members will contribute to the newsletter and not leave it to the same people all the time. The notice comes four times a year, but if you would rather not receive it, please let me know.

The newsletter is on our website at uml.edu/community/LIRA/newsletters.html. A hard copy will NOT be sent to you unless you have requested it from Jeri Durant: jeridurant@gmail.com. You do not need to tell me again for this year unless you want to stop receiving the hard copy. Those members that do not have email will have a copy sent to them automatically. The newsletter comes out four times a year on the first of March, May, September and December. I will send out an email when the newsletter is on the website, usually by the first of the month.

The website is updated four times a year for each new session. Marge puts the newsletter on the website and Jeri updates the other pages. Occasionally, we run into a few problems with updating that are beyond our control and the newsletter will not be there on the first of the month. We try our best to get it to you on time!

Thanks again to everyone for their support. Jeri Durant

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 by the course coordinator 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 Richard Grove 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 and if the cancellation affects the entire membership, Richard Grove will call Judy Miller or Carol McCarthy who are the telephone tree coordinators, to let them know of the cancellation. Judy and Carol will then call the contact persons to inform them of the cancellation. These contact persons will then call the members on their respective list to inform them of the cancellation. For individual classes, coordinators are responsible for calling members for changes or cancellation of their class.

Email Notification

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

Jeri Durant

Parking Hangtags

IMPORTANT: The University is charging $70 for all parking this year and hangtags are being issued at the Convocation on September 13. Please see the last page of the newsletter for directions and a form to use to obtain your hangtag.

The next newsletter will be out on December 1, 2016; the deadline for news items is November 15, 2016. 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. New directories will be emailed to you sometime in October. Those without email will be sent a hard copy automatically. To request a hard copy, please contact Jean Schott at 978-692-3904 or jeanschott@aol.com.

New Members

Dorothy Brown
16 Essex Place
Chelmsford, Ma. 01824
Home phone: 978-256-4570
Cell phone: 978-483-7957

Cynthia Chase
7 Grandview Rd.
Chelmsford, MA 01824
Home phone: 978-256-6107
Cell phone: 617-645-3978
Email: chaseneuropsych@gmail.com

Charlotte Evans
27 Windemere Lane
No. Chelmsford, MA 01863
Home phone: 781-862-1290
Cell phone: 617-529-5640
Email: chrsnave@aol.com

Jesse Heines
13 Augusta Way
N. Chelmsford, Ma.01863
Home phone: 978-251-9350
Cell phone: 978-821-9626
Email: jesse@jesseheines.com

Jean Holmes
20 Summer St. Apt 131
Chelmsford, MA 01824
Phone: 978-256-7998

Andrea Morris
38 Fort Pond Hill Rd.
Littleton, MA 01460
Home phone: 978-846-0920
Email: andrea_morris@comcast.net

Robert Pariseau
24 Priscilla Avenue
Chelmsford, MA 01824
Home phone: 978-807-9290
Cell phone: 781-862-1290
Email: rpariseau10@gmail.com

Richard Pitkin
26 Waverly Ave.
Lowell, Ma. 01852
Home phone: 978-454-7788
Cell phone: 978-397-4325
Email: richardpitkin69@gmail.com

Nick Schott
7 Holly Lane
Westford, MA 01886
Cell phone: 978-884-2579
Email: jeanschott@aol.com

Eileen Sullivan
23 Elmont Road
Lowell, MA 01851
Home phone: 978-453-8860
Cell phone: 978-697-3711
Email: emglounthaune@gmail.com

Membership Renewal 2016 – 2017

LIRA membership dues are $125 ($200 for couples) for the year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017, and are due by August 15, 2016. 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. 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, 2016. 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.

Jean Schott and Bonnie Heines, Membership Co-chairs
Moses Greeley Parker Lectures

The following is a calendar of events for the 2016-2017 Parker lecture series held on the day, time and place noted. The lectures are free and open to the public. Descriptions are not included this time because of its length. Full descriptions can be found at the Pollard Library, Lowell, on the website www.parkerlectures.com or the file can be emailed to you by contacting Jeri Durant: jeridurant@gmail.com

Thursday, September 8, 7:00 p.m. – Whistler House Museum of Art
Steven Hancoff – “From Tragedy to Transcendence: The Six Suites for Cello Solo By J. Sebastian Bach”

Wednesday, September 21, 10 a.m. – Lowell General Hospital
Susan Mollohan – “A Parkinson’s Disease Journey”

Thursday, September 29, 7:00 p.m. – Pollard Library
Mitchel Zuckoff – “Frozen in Time: An Epic Story of Survival and a Modern Quest for Lost Heroes of World War II”

Saturday, October 8, 2:00 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center
Jay Atkinson – “Jack Kerouac: Speed Demon”

Thursday, October 13, 11:45 a.m. – O’Leary Library
Michael Rezendes – “Spotlight”

Thursday, October 20, 6:00 p.m. – Lowell Community Health Center

Sunday, October 23, 2:00 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center
Kevin Gallagher – “The Last Lord of the Loom”

Thursday, October 27, 7:00 p.m. – Pollard Library

Sunday, October 30, 2:00 p.m. – Lowell High School Auditorium
The Tamburitzans

Sunday, November 6, 2:00 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center
Jack Curtis – “Civil War Monuments of Augustus Saint-Gaudens”

Sunday, November 13, 2:00 p.m. – Butler Middle School Auditorium
Lowell Philharmonic Orchestra

Thursday, November 17, 7:00 p.m. – Pollard Library
Our Members at Work

The following is a list of all the members that make our organization run. I think they deserve a round of applause for all their hard work! They are always receptive to having new volunteers; please speak to any one of the members if you would like to be on a committee. Note that these are the committees as they stand as of September 2016. A big THANK YOU also, to those that served on committees last year but are not continuing this year.

Jeri Durant

Executive Board

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

Members-at-Large
Alan Kent
James Youngberg

Committee Chairs
Curriculum Nancy Pitkin
Membership Co-chairs: Jean Schott, Bonnie Heines
Publicity Beverly Rudeen
Hospitality Debbie Sebelius
Newsletter Jeri Durant
Scholarship Co-chairs: Janet Redman, Deanne Sferrino
Telephone Tree Co-chairs: Judy Miller, Carol McCarthy

Committees

Curriculum Committee
Nancy Pitkin, Chairperson
Robert Hanlon
Toby Hodes
Russ MacLeod
Terri Munson
Jean Schott
James Youngberg

Art & Music Committee
Jean Schott, Jeanne Gunion, Co-chairs
Joan Kerzner
Terri Munson
Carol McCarthy
Jean Rubinstein

Library Committee
Dina Gerosideris

Membership Committee
Jean Schott, Bonnie Heines: Co-chairs
Nick Schott

Scholarship Committee
Janet Redman, Deanne Sferrino: Co-chairs
Simone Allard
Alan Kent
John Mamalis
Alan McKersie
Dotty Morris
Barbara Murch

Auction Committee
Sheila Pariseau

Hospitality
Debbie Sebelius

Telephone Tree
Carol McCarthy
Judy Miller, Chairperson

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

Fall 2016 Schedule

Registration will take place at the Fall Convocation on Tuesday, September 13 at 10:00 a.m. in Cumnock Hall, 31 University Ave, Lowell. Each course description includes, after the title, the name of the person who is presenter or facilitator. Below the paragraph is the name of the course coordinator who makes the arrangements and has responsibility for carrying out details of the class. Questions may be addressed to the facilitator/coordinator or Nancy Pitkin, Curriculum Chair.

Fall study groups will meet at the University Suites, 327 Aiken Street, Lowell, MA, Room #106 with the exception of:

Wednesday: 10/19 Tsongas Talon Club
Thursday: 9/29 Tsongas Talon Club, 10/20 Rec Center Meeting Room and 11/10 Tsongas Talon Club
Friday: 10/21 Tsongas Talon Club

Tsongas Center, Talon Club Room, 300 Martin Luther King Jr Way, Lowell, MA
UMass Lowell Recreation Center, Meeting Room, 292 Aiken Street, Lowell, MA

The location of classes sometimes change so watch for announcements.

►MONDAY

Shakespeare: Romeo and Juliet
Facilitator: Frank Carroll*
7 Mondays 10:00 a.m. - Noon, September 19, 26, October 3, 17, 24, 31 November 7

Romeo and Juliet has been described as a young man's play but what young lady in all the other plays of Shakespeare can be more charming then Juliet, that wonderful and mixed up teenage girl filled with the passion of young love? We have no knowledge of anything in Shakespeare's life that might have evoked such a play. All we know is that the story originated in a book by a man named Matteo Bandello, who included a story about two youngsters named Romeo and Juliet in a book of stories he published in 1554 named Novella. The story was translated then into French, and then into English in a collection of stories by William Painter, who then published the play in a book called The Palace of Pleasure in 1554 also. The play was first printed in a Quarto in 1597 and then was included in the First Folio of 1623. Critics generally agree that the play was probably written in 1595. We assume, of course, that Shakespeare was familiar with the work of Painter.

To quote Otis and Needleman’s History of English Literature the very nature and conscious motives of Romeo and Juliet bring about their doom. Yet, one who comes to the play for the first time and is unaware of the general plot is shocked by the horrifying ending. One wonders if perhaps sadder than the deaths of Hamlet or Cordelia. Well, who can say?

Shakespeare in this play writes the first tragedy in English literature based upon romantic love. It is, however, being read for the second time in our Shakespeare class, but it was a nearly unanimous choice when someone mentioned it as a selection for the fall term. All are welcome and of course a text is necessary.

Coordinator: Terri Munson*

Einstein's Relativity and the Quantum Revolution: Modern Physics for Non-Scientists, 2nd Edition
Facilitators: Peter Sebelius* and Bob Hanlon*
7 Mondays, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. September 19, 26, October 3, 17, 24, 31 November 7

The 20th century brought major revolutionary changes in humankind’s understanding of the physical universe. Two revolutionary ideas: relativity and quantum theory touch the very basis of physical reality, altering our commonsense notions of space and time, cause and effect. Both topics are considered exceedingly complex; but the basic ideas behind relativity and quantum physics are, in fact, simple and comprehensible by everyone. This course presents these concepts in plain English with no mathematics so that everyone can understand them.

This course begins with a brief overview of theories of physical reality starting with Aristotle and culminating in Newtonian or the "classical" physics. Then the course highlights the inconsistencies of “classical” theory which led to Einstein’s theory of special
relativity, and the simple yet far-reaching insight on which it rests. The course moves on to consider Einstein's theory of general relativity and its interpretation of gravitation in terms of the curvature of space and time.

In the final lecture, the course moves from the scale of the galactic down to the scale of atomic and subatomic particles and the realm of quantum theory. Quantum theory is a vision of physical reality so at odds with our experience that even our language fails to describe the quantum world.

►TUESDAY

The Best Is Yet To Come: Healthy Mind, Body and Spirit Back by popular demand!
Presenters: UMass Lowell Students (Professor Andrea Mendes)
8 Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. - Noon September 20, 27, October 4, 11, 18, 25, November 1, 8

Doctorate of Physical Therapy students provide LIRA members with the best they have to offer in current topics in healthy aging. The doctoral students, in the third and final year of their program will create the sessions around your unique interests. The presentations are designed to be interactive, stimulating and simply marvelous!! Please join us! Coordinator: Nancy Pitkin*

Broadway Musicals
Facilitator: Jeanne Gunion*
4 Tuesdays, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. September 20, 27, October 4, 11

This course covers the 200-year evolution of American musical theater, including the minstrel era, the vaudeville era, the age of ragtime, the revue, and the book musical. Because recorded examples of music from recent Broadway musicals are readily available at stores, these are used less frequently than the older, rarer recordings, without which most listeners would have little knowledge of the sound of early musicals. The shows chosen to be discussed in this course are each important links in musical theater’s evolution. Coordinator: Jean Schott*

America in the Gilded Age and the Progressive Era
Facilitator: Marti Spalding
4 Tuesdays 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. October 18, 25, November 1, 8

Meet some of the important figures from America's progressive era, including Roosevelt and Carnegie. Look at the cities, technology, and progression of thought that led to a modern culture defined through the Gilded Age. See the explosion of the Suffrage movement and the battle to win the women's right to vote. This fascinating course by Holly Cross professor Edward O’Donnell will explore the massive changes that reshaped America during the Gilded Age (1865-1900) and the Progressive Era (1900–1920).

Before the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, America was a developing nation, with a largely agrarian economy; sharp divisions between North, South, and West; and virtually no role in global affairs. Yet by 1900, within an astonishing 35 years, the U.S. had emerged as the world’s greatest industrial power. During the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, the U.S. went from “leading by example” and maintaining an isolationist foreign policy to become a major participant in international events, showing itself as a nascent superpower in the Spanish-American War and World War I. It was a time rife with staggering excess, social unrest, and strident calls for reform. Coordinator: Bob Hanlon*

►WEDNESDAY

Art and Music
7 Wednesdays September 21, 28, October 5, 19(Tsongas Talon Club Room), 26, November 2, 9

Please see the attached schedule for dates, times, topics, presenters and coordinators of the Art & Music series. The indoor classes will be held at University Suites.

►THURSDAY

Great Decisions
Facilitator: Richard Grove*
8 Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. - Noon September 22, 29 October 6, 20, 27, November 3, 10, 17
Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching the DVD and meeting in a Discussion Group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. Two weekly two-hour sessions explore each topic in depth. Topics for the fall are: International Migration, Cuba and the US, UN Development Agenda and Leadership, and Korean Choices. Briefing books for the fall are available for $10.00.

**LIRA Members Present**
3 Thursdays, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

**September 22 How to Be a Presenter for a LIRA Program**
Presenter: Skip Youngberg*

Hints and Tips on what you want to know to present a program.

**September 29 Cuba Today (Tsongas Talon Club Room)**
Presenters: Joan* and Arnie Kerzner*

Two of our LIRA members went to Cuba and will share their experience. This is in conjunction with the Great Decisions program offered on October 6th and 20th.

**October 6 Social Media (gulp)**
Presenters: Nancy Pitkin* and Peter Sebelius*

Facebook, twitter etc. Easing into using these platforms – how to get started, what’s new, and stay connected if you want! We are the largest demographic users of Facebook according to some sources.

**October 13 Edward M. Kennedy Institute**

We will visit the Edward M. Kennedy Institute in Boston for a guided tour. The Edward M. Kennedy Institute offers a variety of exhibits and experiences for visitors. The exhibit halls feature technology-driven projected displays that immerse visitors in the history of the Senate. Visitors have the opportunity to become “Senators-in-Training” as they grapple with one of the big issues Senators themselves are tackling today. Tours and programs in the Institute’s to-scale representation of the U.S. Senate Chamber bring the Senate to life for visitors. Visitors can explore Senator Kennedy’s own career and commitment to public service in the Institute’s first special exhibit, “The Lion of the Senate” and in a replica of his Washington, D.C. office and Reception Room.

The cost of the trip is: $25. Please send checks made out to LIRA, Inc. to Bob Hanlon, 255 North Road, Unit 37, Chelmsford, MA 01824 by **Friday, October 1.**

The bus will leave the Drum Hill Chelmsford Hannaford Drum Hill side parking lot at: 8:30 AM. You may bring a bag lunch and there is a small café at the Museum. Please let us know if you will be purchasing lunch. We will return at 1:00 PM arriving back in Chelmsford by 2:30 PM

**The Presidential Election 2016**
Presenter: Professor Frank Talty
4 Thursdays 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. October 20 (Rec Center), 27, November 3, 10 (Tsongas Talon Club Room)

As the whole world knows, the United States will elect a new President this fall. We also know that the new President will either be Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump. This mini-course will take a look at the process by which Americans choose the major party nominees and how they elect the President. We will take a look back at how the Caucuses, the Presidential Preference Primaries and the National Nominating Conventions chose the two nominees.

We will then look ahead to November 8th and how the Electoral College operates and produces a President. Finally, in week 4, (two days after the election!) we will analyze the results.

Coordinator: Nancy Pitkin*
FRIDAY

Book Discussion
Facilitator: Toby Hodes*
4 Fridays 10:00 a.m. - Noon September 16, October 21 (Tsongas Talon Club Room), November 18, December 16

Do you like to read fiction or perhaps the classics, or are biographies your preference? Perhaps, you are an aficionado of non-fiction. Whatever your genre preference, guaranteed sometime during the year the book group will read and discuss an example thereof. And what is more inviting to a passionate reader than an opportunity to discuss a book - like it or hate it – with other like-minded people? Our discussions are always lively, interesting, and varied, and a new point of view is always welcome. Here are the fall selections:

Facilitator: Toby Hodes**

September 16  The Red Tent, fiction by Anita Diamant
October 21   Man's Search for Meaning, non-fiction by Viktor Frankl
November 18  Listen Liberal, non-fiction by Thomas Frank
December 16  My Brilliant Friend, fiction by Elena Ferrante
**January  We Are Market Basket, non-fiction by Daniel Korschun & Grant Welker
**February  Homegoing, fiction by Yaa Gyasi
**Dates to be determined

* LIRA Members
Art & Music Fall 2016

Programs on September 28 and October 19 will be held at University Suites, 327 Aiken Street, Lowell, MA from 10 a.m. to Noon. There will be sign-up sheets for tours at the September 13 Fall Convocation. If you cannot attend, you may ask someone to put your name on the list for your choice of tours.

September 21 Visit to the Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church, 25 Father Sarantos Way, Lowell, MA

Master iconographer, Robert Andrews, created mosaic tile masterpieces over a 50 year period at the Transfiguration church. He began work there in 1961. At that time, the interior walls of the church were bare plaster. Today the walls glimmer with shades of gold, blue and red. Andrew imports the small glass tiles from Italy. His work can be seen at more than 20 churches both in the US and abroad.
Please arrive at 10:30 a.m.
Directions from University Crossing on Pawtucket Street:
Head down Pawtucket Street in the opposite direction from the University Suites.
Turn left right after the University Crossing Building onto Salem Street. Take a right onto Dempsey Place Please use the church parking lot.
Coordinator: Jean Schott*

September 28 The Gentlemen Songsters

The Gentlemen Songsters of the Lowell Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society will give a program consisting of live performances, a discussion of the history of barbershop harmony, and videos about the group.
Coordinator: Jean Schott*

October 5 The Peabody Essex Museum

Special exhibit: American Impressionist, Childe Hassam and the Isles of Shoals. The artist’s landscapes and seascapes in oils and water colors of Maine make him the foremost American impressionist of his generation. The bus leaves promptly at 9:30 a.m. from the side parking lot at Hannaford’s, Drum Hill, Chelmsford. A bag lunch is suggested. We return about 2:30 p.m. Bus cost is $10.50 for LIRA members. Senior Admission is $16, paid individually at the museum. Library coupons, MTA and museum reciprocals accepted. And, there is a nice cafe and gift shop. Any member wishing to visit the Yin Yu Tang Chinese House, should include an additional fee of $5.00. Checks are payable to LIRA, INC, and are due by Monday, September 26. Please send checks to Carol McCarthy, 398 Acton Road, Chelmsford MA 01824 (Please note - 24 hours needed for refunds).
Coordinator: Carol McCarthy*

October 12 NO PROGRAM (Yom Kippur)

October 19 UMass Lowell Music Students (Tsongas Talon Club Room)

A program given by students of the U Mass Lowell Music Dept. Specific info will be given on this at a later date.
Coordinator: Jean Schott*

October 26 Merrimack Repertory Theater, 50 East Merrimack Street, Lowell, MA

LIRA members will visit the Merrimack Repertory Theatre in Lowell and meet with MRT Artistic Director, Sean Daniels. They will learn about what goes into putting together a season and a show at MRT, and chat with Sean and his staff about everything from the nuts and bolts of designing and building sets, to selecting plays to getting actors ready for opening night. Whether LIRA members are regular MRT subscribers, or entirely new to this gem of a professional theater, they are sure to be entertained. MRT specializes in producing regional and national premier performances of American plays.
Coordinator: Joan Kerzner*
This will be the first museum exhibition devoted entirely to art featuring the Mt. Washington region. It will feature major paintings by Hudson River School artists, as well as by Winslow Homer. Paintings, prints, vintage photos, etc. will document the artistic and historical context in which NH's most scenic landmark became a national and historical symbol of the American landscape. The second exhibit on view at the Currier is The Paris of Toulouse-Lautrec: Prints and Posters from the Museum of Modern Art, NYC. After Lautrec’s art, no one saw Paris in the same way. The Currier’s exclusive NE presentation of more than 100 original posters, prints, and illustrated books explores the magic of Belle Époque Paris, the city of light, in the late 19th century.

Senior admission is $10.00. There is a cafe at the museum for light lunches.

**The museum opens at 11:00 a.m.**

**Directions to the museum:**

Take I-293, exit 6- Amoskeag Bridge, bearing right to cross the bridge, but staying in the left lane, following signs for the business district and Elm Street.
At traffic light, cross Elm and go 0.4 miles to Beech Street. Turn right onto Beech St. The Currier will be 0.5 miles on your left.
Coordinator: Jean Schott*

**November 9 Loading Dock Gallery at Western Ave Studios, 122 Western Ave, Lowell, MA 01851**

LIRA will meet at the Loading Dock Gallery at Western Avenue Studios from 10 a.m. to Noon. Event will include: Talk on the history of the studios and Loading Dock Gallery, a presentation by three artists about their self-portrait work that will be on display at the Loading Dock Gallery and tour of their Western Avenue studios and possibly an artist’s loft.
Coordinator: Terri Munson
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<td>December 7</td>
<td>10 am to Noon</td>
<td>Great Decisions</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 8</td>
<td>10 am to Noon</td>
<td>Chelmsford Library Lecture</td>
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<td>December 12</td>
<td>10 am to Noon</td>
<td>Book Discussion</td>
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<td><em>My Brilliant Friend</em> by Elena Ferrante</td>
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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? ___________________

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

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
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Parking Hangtags

Please read the following carefully. LIRA parking permits for 2016-2017 will be valid for 10 months, September 2016 through June 2017. The 10-month parking fee of $70 is $2 less than last year despite a $1 per month increase in the monthly rate. LIRA will not have any on-campus programs in July and August 2017.

Please fill out the parking permit form below along with a $70 check made out to UMass Lowell and bring it to the Convocation on September 13. Parking hangtags can only be issued to members that have paid their dues and have completed the vehicle information form. No one, other than those with a handicap permit, will receive a University issued parking permit without a payment of $70.

You have 3 options if you cannot make it for the Convocation:

- If you fill out this form with a check made out to UMass Lowell for $70 and mail it to Richard Grove, 27 Windemere Lane, N. Chelmsford, MA 01863 BEFORE September 13, he will assign a hangtag to you. Include a stamped, self-addressed legal-sized envelope and he will mail it to you.
- You may have a friend bring a filled out form and check to the Convocation and get a hangtag for you.
- You will have to go to the Parking Access office at Campus Security office located at 220 Pawtucket St, Lowell, MA 01854, entrance on Salem St. This is the same place that you get your photo ID.

IF YOU HAVE HANDICAPPED PARKING, PLEASE WRITE YOUR PLAQUE NUMBER AND DATE OF EXPIRATION ON THE FORM. Your parking will be free, but you will not be able to get your hangtag unless you have ALL this information.

Additional copies of the application form will be available at the Convocation.

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LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION (LIRA)
UML Parking Permit – Registration Form

LIRA MEMBER AND VEHICLE INFORMATION (Required): [Please Print]

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<th>First Name</th>
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Mailing Address: ____________________________
                 (Street, P.O. Box, City/Town, State, Zip Code)

Telephone Number: __________________________

Handicap Permit #:__________________________Expiration Date:______________

VEHICLE INFORMATION:

Year: _____ Make: ______________ Model: ______________ Color: __________

State: _______________________ License Plate Number:________________________

UML PARKING PERMIT NUMBER: __________________________

September 2016 through June 2017 (10 months)  LIRA-UML Parking Permit Form – rev 8/16