



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

May 2009

Vol. 16 No. 2

LIRA's Annual Meeting Wednesday, May 27, 2009

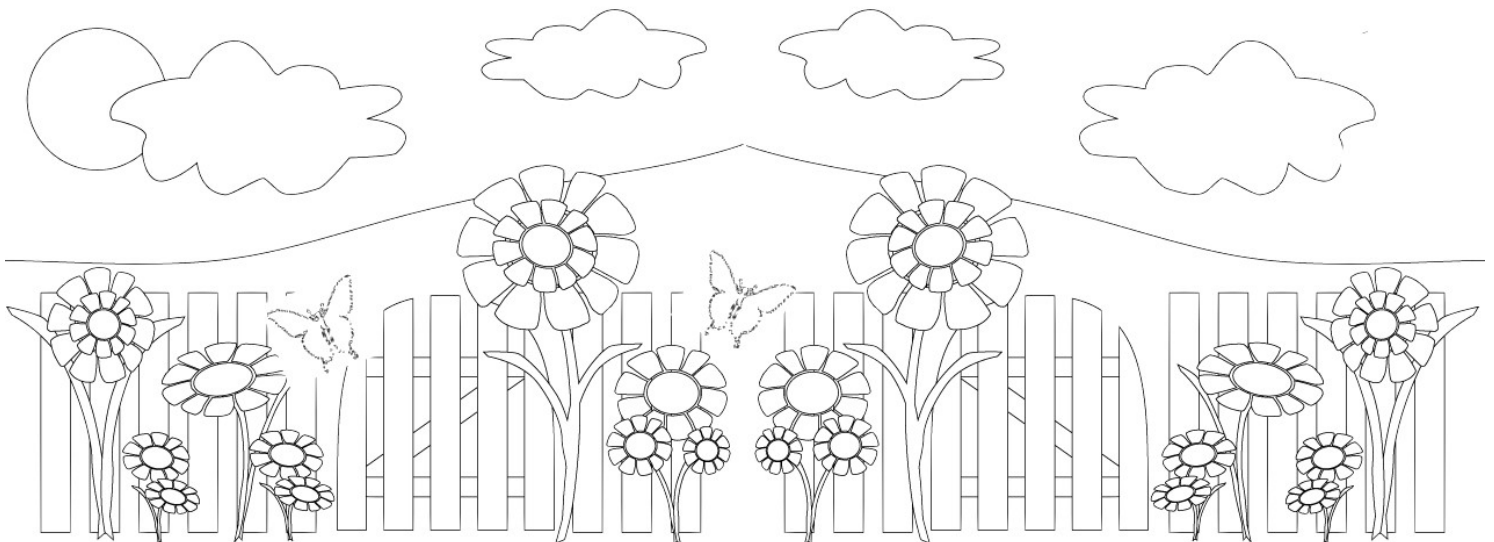
MIL Conference Center, Suffolk St, Lowell, MA

10 AM to Noon



Join us for:

**Election of Officers, Vote on changes in Bylaws,
Hear about the new Summer Intersession,
Refreshments**



Summer time and the living is easy.....

Votes for Changes to Bylaws

At the May 2008 annual meeting, members voted to change our fiscal year to be September 1 to August 31.

At the Executive Council meeting on April 8, 2009, a motion was made to revert to the original fiscal year to begin on July 1 and to end on June 30. The motion was seconded and accepted and needs to be voted upon at the May 2009 Annual Meeting. Proposed changes:

Vote to amend fiscal year:

From:----- September 1 – August 31

To:----- July 1 – June 30

Vote to amend Article III – Membership Year:

From:----- September 1 – August 31

To:----- July 1 – June 30

Amendment to read as follows:

The period of Membership shall be from July 1 – June 30

Vote to amend Article V – Officers – Term of Office

From:----- September 1 – August 31

To:----- July 1 – June 30

Amendment to read as follows:

Term of Office – Officers shall be elected to serve for one year. The term shall be from July 1 – June 30.

Don Pattershall

Slate of Officers for 2009-2010:

The Nominating Committee would like to present the 2009-2010 nominations for officers of LIRA to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. All nominees have agreed to serve if elected.

President..... Toby Hodes
Vice-President..... Alan Kent
Secretary..... Shirley Mitchell
Treasurer..... Ann Dahlman

Nominating Committee

Dorothy Bromage

Shirley McCaffrey

Alfred Sidel

Art History Symposium

Again this year Dr. Liana Cheney, Professor of Art History at the UMass Lowell, is moderating an undergraduate symposium about artists and has invited us to attend. It will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2009, from 1:00 to 4:00PM at the Whistler House Museum of Art on 243 Worthen Street, Lowell. The symposium is free and open to the public; a small reception will follow.

Just a Reminder

This is to remind you that donations to the coffee fund go to the expenses of the coffee, tea, paper goods and goodies and the balance goes to the scholarship fund. Your donation of \$1.00 would be greatly appreciated. Since we are paying \$350.00 every time we use the MIL Conference Center, the funds are needed to sustain our coffee fund. The cost of the catered coffee for our quarterly meetings has also gone up, so we ask that you donate \$2.00 at those meetings.



Member News

Our sincere sympathy and condolences to Dotty Zahos and her family. Her son Michael passed away at the age of 42.

Our good wishes to Pat Rotelli for a speedy recovery from her foot ailment.

Kay Carroll

Publicity

Finally we have a brochure. If you would like copies of it or of a poster to put up on a bulletin board please let me know and I will make sure you have them. In the meantime, I hope members will continue to speak out about LIRA so that we can "spread the word" of this wonderful program.

Jeanne Gunion

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.

MAY 9, 2009 POLLARD LIBRARY - 2 PM SATURDAY

“Preserving Your Family Treasures” by Donia Conn

Celebrate National Preservation Week. Learn about organizing your important family items with Donia Conn of the Northeast Document Conservation Center. Ms. Conn will discuss how to preserve papers, photos and other family treasures so future generations can appreciate your family's experiences, heritage and history.

The next newsletter will be out on September 1, 2009; the deadline for news items is August 15, 2009. 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

Reproducing Piano Seeks Good Home

My Symphonique Ampico baby grand piano sits in a piano shop in New Hampshire. It has been repaired and regulated. At 5'1" in length it does not take up a lot of room in a house. In my home, however, I have no place to put it. Rather than have this great piano sit idle in a piano shop, I would like to place it in somebody's home, where it could be played, both as a regular piano and as a player, and bring pleasure as it was meant to do. Ed, the piano technician owner of PianoArts, will deliver anywhere in New England and tune it once in place. For my part, I will provide ten Ampico rolls as well as ten regular rolls (not reproducing) of your choosing. It comes with a matching bench. Further, if there is ever a problem, he will take care of it and send the bill to me. What a great win-win situation! I will have the satisfaction of seeing the piano receiving some attention—players should be played.

Ed has had no luck selling the Symphonique, because the market is soft, as they say. He tells me it has been over a year since he sold any grand at all. For the sake of my instrument, I hope to place it in a home. You may have room for it and not even know it. Perhaps moving just one chair would open up the space. If you have been to my house, you have become acquainted with reproducing pianos and have seen what delight the rolls can bring. I would be happy to discuss the matter with anyone at any time. I have pictures to show. As for the future, I do not anticipate trying to sell the instrument nor do any of my relatives have room for a baby grand piano.

Dorothy Bromage
8 Skyline Drive
Billerica, MA 01821
978-670-1269 bromaged@comcast.net



Summer Carillon Concerts

In Norwood, there is a summer carillon series called "Carillon Concerts on the Common." On Monday evenings from 7:00 – 8:00 PM, from June 29 through August 17, you can hear the special sound of a carillon from the Tilton Memorial Carillon installed in the Norwood Town Hall at Washington and Nahatan Streets. As always, this year's line-up of artists features carilloneurs from around the world.

The concerts are rain or shine. Best listening spot is the upper parking lot behind the town Hall off Central Street. Tours of the bell-tower are available after most concerts. Norwood's fifty-bell carillon was cast by Gillet and Johnston, Bellfounders, Croydon, England and dedicated on Armistice Day, November 11, 1928. Travel down 96/128 and get off at Exit 15B. To see a flyer with details, contact Dorothy Bromage.



Visit to Artist's Studio

On April 1, LIRA members met at the studio of fiber artist Signe Kaleel. Located in a former mill building on Western Avenue in Lowell, the studio's walls display many fine examples of Signe's dry felting work.

The opportunity to "try our hand" at dry felting, a new skill for most of us, and Signe's exuberant personality combined to provide an enjoyable learning experience.

Carol McCarthy

Musical Program April 8, 2009

Dorothy Bromage had a wonderful musical program planned for Wednesday, April 8, 2009 but unfortunately the audio/visual set up in the LIRA room failed her best-laid plans. The program's title was Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4.

Nevertheless we were in for a treat. Dorothy had invited a young UMass Lowell student, Joyce Pang, who is a violinist and music educator to the program. Joyce explained that the players in the orchestra tune their instruments to the oboe because it has a distinct sound. To illustrate tuning, she played the "A" and "E" strings on the violin. A portion of "Polovetsian Dances" played with vibrato and without vibrato helped us to hear the difference. She also explained that violins are handmade and that they vary in size according to the country they come from. She spoke, too, of

the training of a violinist. After this Joyce treated us to a little concert.

Dorothy had brought books, tapes, piano rolls, and posters and she had a wonderful handout. She used this to explain the placement and the roles of the various instruments in the orchestra. Unfortunately time that was taken up trying to get the DVDs to work limited Dorothy's program. Because of the equipment failure, videos of instruments and the recording of Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4 will be offered in the fall. So keep "tuned" for a more successful program then.

Jeanne Gunion

Calendar for National Heritage Museum

The following are free lectures held at the National Heritage Museum 33 Marrett Rd Lexington, MA 02421 unless specified otherwise. For more information about any of the scheduled programs please call (781) 861-6559

Saturday, May 16, 2009

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Bob Childs

Bob Childs, featured in the exhibition "Keepers of Tradition," has been making violins for over thirty years. After his apprenticeships, he set up shop in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where his commissions kept him so busy that he wasn't able to make a violin for himself until his 50th birthday. Watch Bob demonstrate his skill and then visit the exhibition to see a finished product. Free

Sunday, May 17, 2009

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Tour of "The Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts: 275 Years of Brotherhood"

Join Museum staff for a tour of "The Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts: 275 Years of Brotherhood." Learn about the Grand Lodge's history, from 1733 to the present. Firmly tied to the state's unique history, the Grand Lodge has counted hundreds of thousands of Massachusetts men among its members, from Revolutionary War heroes Paul Revere and Joseph Warren to sports commentator Curt Gowdy. Free

Saturday, May 30, 2009

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Tour the Battle Road

Stop by and tour the Battle Road from Hartwell Tavern to Captain William Smith House and the notorious Bloody Angle where Lincoln Minute Men ambushed the British column on April 19, 1775. Other activities include fife and drum music, period crafts, drill and weapons demonstrations, and children's activities. Collaborative program. Location: Hartwell Tavern (off Rt. 2A in Lincoln). Free

Saturday, May 30, 2009

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Jeanne Fallier: Hooking rugs

Jeanne Fallier has been hooking rugs for 50 years. She learned embroidery and tatting from her grandmother, but found her calling in hooking rugs which is "faster and more satisfying" and allows her to combine "artistic ability with a versatile craft." The majority of her work is inspired by extensive travel. Jeanne is one of the featured artists in "Keepers of Tradition." Free

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

7:30 PM

David Glassberg

David Glassberg, history professor and author of *Sense of History: The Place of the Past in American Life*, will talk about the shifting boundaries between personal, public, and professional uses of the past and their place in the broader cultural landscape. Collaborative program. Location: Minute Man National Historical Park. Free.

Saturday, June 13, 2009

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Tour of "The Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts: 275 Years of Brotherhood."

Join Museum staff for a tour of "The Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts: 275 Years of Brotherhood." Learn about the Grand Lodge's history, from 1733 to the present. Firmly tied to the state's unique history, the Grand Lodge has counted hundreds of thousands of Massachusetts men among its members, from Revolutionary War heroes Paul Revere and Joseph Warren to sports commentator Curt Gowdy. Free

Sunday, June 14, 2009

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Get to know our American flag

Get to know our American flag—its origin, its history, the legends and the myths. With the Museum's historically significant 15-star flag as the backdrop, visitors will have an opportunity to learn some of the most interesting details about the American flag, and how its history is connected to our present and our future. Hands-on activities included. Free.

Saturday, June 27

9:30 AM – 5 PM

Living History Event

In this drop-in family program, Revolutionary War reenactors from the 10th Massachusetts Regiment, the Ladies of Refined Taste, and the Authentic New England Campaigners will bring to life the story of a young nation at war as its fate hung in the balance. Collaborative program. Location: Hartwell Tavern (Rt. 2A in Lincoln). Free.

Whistler House Exhibit

Former LIRA member Anne Sullivan is having an exhibit of her works at the Whistler House Museum of Art, Lowell, in the Parker Gallery. The following was provided by James Dymont, Exhibits and Gallery Manager of the Whistler House.

Anne D. Sullivan: A Retrospective
May 9 to June 27, 2009

Reception: Sunday, May 17, 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Brown Bag Luncheon & Artist Talk: June 10 at 12:00 noon
(Bring your own lunch, coffee and tea will be served)

Evening Gallery Talk with Artist: June 25, 6:00pm
(Light refreshments will be served)

Anne Sullivan's work in contemporary water media is an ongoing exploration of color, texture and design. Surface quality is an important consideration and is developed in several ways. Watercolor and acrylic paints and inks are applied in layers to a variety of papers. Texturing may involve painting techniques, collage materials, or the use of various media such as gesso, acrylic gels, lava sand or modeling compounds. The design elements used are geometric symbols inherent to most cultures. The works are built slowly creating a



Southwest Visions, 19 x 25

dialogue between symbols and shapes. The layering of color and texture allude to ancient architectural spaces. The result is an enduring conversation with our cultural past.

Watercolors, mixed media paintings and monotypes have earned Sullivan a place in “Who’s Who in American Art”, “Who’s Who in the East”, “Who’s Who in America”, and “Who’s Who in the World”. Anne has been the recipient of numerous awards in local, regional and national exhibits.

Her education includes undergraduate work at Northeastern University and a B.A. in Art from the University of Massachusetts. Art classes and printmaking studies over a period of several years at the DeCordova Museum in Lincoln, MA as well as workshops with nationally known artists and teachers provided the impetus and

encouragement to pursue a career as a professional artist. Her paintings and prints have traveled in juried exhibits to museums and galleries throughout the United States and are included in many private and corporate collections.

Sullivan is a signature member of the International Society of Experimental Artists, National Association of Women Artists, National League of American Pen Women, New England

Watercolor Society, Copley

Society of Boston – Copley Artist, Florida Artists’ Group, Inc., and Monotype Guild of New England.

May 17 at Lowell Cemetery

The Summer Intersession includes a guided tour of the Lowell Cemetery on June 24. Something special takes place before then. On Sunday, May 17, the Memorial Day Program will be held at the cemetery. This annual event features traditional activities such as the Flag Raising Ceremony, firing of a salute, and a soloist for “God Bless America.” Capping off the ceremonies is a remarkable parade. The Order of March includes mounted guards, bagpipes, drummers, vintage vehicles, and two Civil War units. A Blackhawk helicopter lands and people may take a look inside. A concert will be given by the Colonial Brass Band of the U.S. Air Force Band of Liberty.

Last year, the Memorial Day Program was dedicated to Paul Tsongas, who is interred there. Some LIRA members are familiar with the cemetery by having a plot or being on the Board of Trustees. The program begins at 12:30 PM. Enter from Rt. 38 on Knapp St., and park anywhere inside the cemetery.

Dorothy Bromage

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

New Member:

Kevin Donnelly
8 Westwood Drive
Tewksbury, MA 01876
kdonnelly1@msn.com

Email change:

Alan Kent:
drakent@yahoo.com

Newsletter Committee

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