



# LIRA NEWSLETTER

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION  
Office of Community and Cultural Affairs – UMass Lowell  
Member of Road Scholar Institute Network  
Tel.: (978) 934-3135 Web: [uml.edu/community/LIRA](http://uml.edu/community/LIRA)



September 2015

Vol. 22 No. 3

*Join us for  
LIRA's Fall Convocation  
Wednesday, September 16, 2015  
10 AM 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 Paul Marion,  
Executive Director of  
Community Relations.*



## Beauport Mansion

Perched on a ledge overlooking Gloucester harbor, the Beauport Mansion is a National Historic Landmark. Its official name is the Sleeper-McCann House. It was the summer home of one of America's first professional interior designers, Henry Davis Sleeper. It became his retreat, backdrop for entertaining many colorful guests, professional showcase, and an inspiration for all who visited.



The interior and exterior of the house contain Sleeper's lifetime collection of curiosities, colored glass, folk art, china and silhouettes in every nook and alcove. Each of the 40 rooms is distinguished by a historical or literary figure, theme, color, shape or object. No two rooms are the same, with each often more dazzling than the previous one! The building is framed by newly restored Arts and Craft style terraces that include intimate garden rooms with dramatic views of the harbor.

Visitors to Beauport learn about its architectural evolution, the sources of Sleeper's inspiration and how he influenced both other interior designers and popular taste. The mansion is open from late May until the middle of October from Tuesday through Saturday.

*Jean Schott*

## Balloons, Boats and Bunglers

Those of you who took the tour of the Chevalier Theatre in Medford will be interested in an upcoming program. Friday, Oct 2, 7:00 PM. The address of the theatre is 30 Forest St. in Medford. There will be an eclectic trio of silent movies. First the 1956 Oscar winner "The Red Balloon," a tale of a French boy and his balloon. Then Buster Keaton's 1921 funny family voyage, "The Boat." Laurel & Hardy are comics turned convicts in "Liberty" (1929). If you have not seen the inside of the Chevalier Theatre, attend and you will enjoy the art deco environment. Peter Krasinski, a specialist in the art of improvisational silent film accompaniment, will add music to the movies. The program is \$10 general admission, \$5 for children 10 and under.

*Dorothy Bromage*

## H. P. Lovecraft

On July 8th LIRA was treated to a lecture by Lovecraftian Scholar Darrell Schweitzer. Darrell told the audience about the life of horror writer, Howard Phillips Lovecraft. Lovecraft wrote in the early part of the twentieth century. A Providence native, he set many of his stories in our locale, such as Marblehead and Salem.

Darrell presented a video slide show depicting many of the New England localities.

Even if one is not a reader of the horror fiction genre, Darrell's talk was filled with interesting details about Lovecraft's life and times.

To add a pleasant musical note to their visit here from Philadelphia, Darrell's wife Mattie Brahen dazzled us with her guitar and songs at the break and after the talk.

She sang a humorous song whose lyrics mirrored the horror theme named, "I Want a Ghoul just like the Ghoul that Devoured Dear Old Dad".

Then she sang a heartfelt Beatles medley, which we all enjoyed.

Everyone had a great time learning about an important horror author from the past with ties to New England. Stephen King sings his praises.

Thank you to Darrell and Mattie for a great presentation.

*Beverly Rudeen*



Darrell and Mattie, holding a plushy of Cthulhu, Lovecraft's most famous monster

## Amendment to Bylaws

At the June Executive Council meeting we discussed and approved adding the "immediate Past President" to the Executive Council membership. We also need to give written notice in the Newsletter to members before the convocation.

Amendment to LIRA Bylaws

At the Fall Convocation the Executive Council will propose an amendment to the LIRA Bylaws to make the immediate Past President a member of the Executive Council.

*Richard Grove*



## The Tenth Regiment of Foot

Paul O'Shaughnessy was gracious and complete in answering questions on July 29. And he got many! Few of us had seen an 18<sup>th</sup> century British officer in full uniform. As it turned out, there is a reason for every single part of his uniform, which was authentic down to the last detail. Of special interest, it seemed, were the musket and sword. We learned what they are made of and how they are used. As a 15-year old, acting as a guide on the Lexington Battle Green, Paul was attracted by the uniform of the Red Coats. In the Tenth Regiment, he has risen to be a commanding officer. The regiment not only participates in re-enactments but is occasionally found to be occupying a town! The "Tenth Regiment of Foot" became clear as he explained the organization of the disciplined and well-trained British army. Few lectures have been as colorful and informative as when Paul O'Shaughnessy came to LIRA. He left us wanting more.

*Dorothy Bromage*



Paul O'Shaughnessy in an authentic uniform of a British officer

## Details for Fall Convocation

The Fall Convocation will be held on September 16, 2015 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.

It has been decided to bring homemade goodies for 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 \$72.

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 9. 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 four 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.

*Carol Cannistraro*

## Four Scholarships to be Awarded

The LIRA Executive Board has voted to award four \$1500 scholarships to four full-time, through May 2016, 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*



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.

## A Trip Back in Time

The City of Medford is known for many things in its past, including the once significant ship building industry. But one of its best kept secrets is the Chevalier Theatre. Built by the WPA in the Thirties, it was the auditorium for Medford High School. The auditorium was spared when a fire leveled the high school, which was rebuilt in another part of the city. At one point, the auditorium came close to demolition. That the art deco building still exists and is preserved is due to the actions of concerned citizens.

On May 6, a LIRA group was able to see the result of many years of attention. On that date a program was presented, starting with Dorothy Bromage on (1)



how a Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ came to be given to the theatre and (2) the creation in 2002 of the Chevalier Theatre Organ Society (CTOS). The American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS) has been helpful with the organ restoration cost. A member, Jim Duncan, was present and explained the structure of ATOS. A local chapter, The Eastern Massachusetts Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society, supports and presents concerts with two theatre organs: one is the Wurlitzer in the Knight Auditorium of Babson College, and the other is also a Wurlitzer in the Zeiterion Theatre of Providence, RI. Other theatre organs exist in the area, such as the one in the Stoneham Town Hall.

The President of CTOS, Ken Krause, then gave the group details concerning the building and how installation of the organ is being funded. The Society owns a Kawai electronic organ which can be made to sound like a theatre pipe organ. Theatre organist Jim Duncan provided proof of this by a mini-concert of familiar tunes, which prompted some singing.

The program continued with a tour of the building. Ken led the group through an area with dressing rooms and also the space where the restoration of pipes, etc. is taking place. A check from LIRA was given to Ken for the CTOS organ fund, and another was mailed to the Medford City Auditorium Commission in gratitude for opening the building. Another check was given to Jim Duncan to use as he sees fit.

By way of a blue packet's contents, LIRA members learned more details of the history and support for the Wurlitzer theatre organ.

*Dorothy Bromage*

## Fall Program Notes

For the fall semester, all classes will be held at the University Suites, 327 Aiken Street, Lowell, Room #106 with the exception of November 5, AM and PM classes which will meet at the Talon Room in the Tsongas Center. The morning classes are from 10 a.m. to noon and the afternoon classes are from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Parking is available at the Perkins Street lot, Riverwalk Way, the Campus Recreation Center lot 292 Aiken Street and the East Parking Garage, 47 Pawtucket Street. Since all our classes are at the University Suites, coffee will not be provided by Aramark. The cost for us to buy it is prohibitive. You can bring your own or buy it at the Hawk's Nest Café in the building. Snacks will still be provided. No late reservations will be taken for the trips in the Art & Music program. When a check is required, they need to be postmarked by the date that is on the schedule. If there is a charge for the trip, a 24 hour cancellation notice to the coordinator is required if you expect to receive a refund. **No refunds will be given if you do not notify the coordinator before this time.** This is a policy that has been in existence for many years.

## 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.

*Carol McCarthy  
Judy Miller*

# Experiencing Cuba

What a treasure trove of memorable experiences and pictures I garnered during the recent 8 days in Havana and the resort town of Varadero, both on the Gulf of Mexico. Sculptors, painters, writers, dancers and especially energetic seniors visited, decidedly are friendly, creative, dedicated, and willing to share their thinking and experiences. Talented artists received our group of Road Scholars in their modest homes. Owners of paladares, self-employed restaurants also in homes, served delicious homemade Cuban foods. Dancers in colorful costumes, performed inspiring programs based on their culture, in studios needing refurbishing and sans air conditioning. Seniors proudly demonstrated and enthusiastically taught us the traditional danzon dance of the 1940's and 1950's. Wishing to preserve it, they teach it in local schools.

The island reflects a proud past in its colonial, Spanish Baroque architecture and art nouveau style. Interestingly, a smaller copy of the United States capitol, graces the Havana skyline. Near the Malecon, the popular esplanade on the waterfront, is the modern American embassy completed in 1953. Architects responsible for the Lincoln Center and U.N. headquarters in N.Y., designed the building. There are the ubiquitous, carefully maintained American cars of the the late fifties which also speak to past U.S. presence in the nation. Early in the visit and sadly noted throughout Havana is the overwhelming need to renew and reconstruct once splendid buildings that fell into disrepair after the Cuban Revolution. An example of the snail's pace of renovation which continues to plagues the poor nation was the government's politically important edifice, the Museum of the Revolution, once the palatial residence of Dictator Batista.



It took from 1959 when Castro's guerrilla army entered Havana, to 1988 when the building, devoted to communist propaganda, was opened.

In contrast to the decay in Havana is Varadero, in the 1930's a fishing village, today transformed into a luxury vacation destination mainly for foreigners, run by the state. Numerous hotels are along stretches of sandy beaches with coral outcroppings. The Melia Hotel where we stayed, has comfortable accommodations, huge buffet selections, and where one hears a Cuban beat to the mambo, salsa, and rumba music.

Employees at the hotel work long hours for low wages. This is true for all Cubans including professionals. Prices in local outdoor markets of vegetables and fruits are a different currency (cup) from what tourists must use (cuc). Shoppers have few choices of meats, no milk (only for children and seniors), and pharmacies' shelves have limited items. Yet citizens appear remarkably resilient. In 1991 when Russia stopped its aid, the times were called "The Special Period" because 80% of Cuban imports ceased. We visited an organic farm which typifies one important accommodation farmers made when chemicals no longer were available to them.

The customs official in Miami after reviewing my passport stated, "Welcome back to the land of YiFi and toilet paper", a truism. There is only five percent of internet access in the nation, newspapers and TV are under government control, the plumbing and electricity are in the need of updating. Despite a few personal inconveniences, I found the journey rich and rewarding.

*Connie Lanseigne-Case*

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## Chelmsford Library Lecture Series

The Chelmsford Library is running a Lecture Series in conjunction with LIRA on the second Friday of the month. The lectures begin at 10 a.m. in the McCarthy Meeting Room. Nothing has been scheduled at the time of this newsletter. Check the library's website for further information.

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

## Newsletters on Website

**PLEASE NOTE NEW POLICY:** Beginning with the December issue, we will assume that everyone who has email is reading the newsletter on-line. A hard copy of the newsletter will NOT be mailed to you unless you have contacted Jeri Durant: [jeridurant@gmail.com](mailto:jeridurant@gmail.com). Those members that do not have email will have a hard copy sent to them automatically.

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

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





# 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 2015. 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: Bonnie Heines, Jean Schott
Publicity	Beverly Rudeen
Hospitality	TBA

## Committees

### Curriculum Committee

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

### Art & Music Committee

Barbara Page, Chairperson  
Dorothy Bromage  
Jane Canter  
Loretta Curtis

Carol McCarthy  
Jean Rubinstein  
Jean Schott

### Library Committee

Shirley Mitchell

### Membership Committee

Bonnie Heines, Jean Schott: Co-chairs

### Auction Committee

Carol Cannistraro

### Scholarship Committee

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

### Hospitality

TBA

### Telephone Tree

Carol McCarthy  
Judy Miller, Chairperson

### Newsletter Committee

Jeri Durant, Editor  
Suzanne Knapp, Layout and Reproduction  
Shirley Mitchell, Distribution  
Simone Allard, Member News  
Jeanne Gunion, Member Spotlight

### UMass Lowell Website

Jeri Durant  
Suzanne Knapp

### UMass Lowell Liaison

Paul Marion, Executive Director of  
Community and Cultural Affairs

## Hawk Valley Farm

On a very warm Wednesday, July 15, LIRA members toured the Hawk Valley Farm in Lowell with Jane Calvin, Executive Director of Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust (LP&CT) and a very special tour guide, Luisa Varnum. Hawk Valley Farm was one of Lowell's original farm settlements from the 1600's. Nearly five acres in size, this little known historic land is behind the Regatta Field (aka Anne Welcome Field by the Dunkin Donuts) on Pawtucket Blvd. and goes to Varnum Avenue. Louisa Varnum, representing the sixth generation of Varnums to live on the original land, purchased the property, bringing the former family land back into the Varnum family after it once sold to a developer. While Louisa Varnum will own the land and pass it down to future generations, LP&CT and The Trustees of Reservations will co-hold a conservation restriction on the property, which will protect it in perpetuity from being developed.

Some of the highlights on this land include a large "lawn" that has never been touched by modern methods that is so thick that no tree can penetrate the sod to take root; there are deer trails and woodchuck holes and black walnut trees; and plenty of flowers for the bees. It was amazing to stand on the property near the "original Varnum home" on Varnum Terrace and realize that in 2005 the Merrimack River came all the way to where we were standing and actually went all the way past us to Varnum Ave!

Thank you to Jane Calvin and Louisa Varnum for a very enjoyable special tour and we didn't get rained on!

*Nancy Pitkin*



The next newsletter will be out on December 1, 2015; the deadline for news items is November 15, 2015. 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*

## Help Wanted

### Hospitality Committee

Mary Willis and Dawn Gillogly have done a wonderful job as co-chairs of the LIRA Hospitality Committee, arranging refreshments and providing table decorations at LIRA's four big meetings each year: Fall Convocation, December Holiday Party, March Town Meeting and May Annual Meeting. They have asked us to find a new chairperson or co-chairs for the Hospitality Committee beginning in October. We would like to find new volunteers ASAP so they can work with Mary and Dawn and learn from them. Please contact Richard Grove if you can serve. Phone: 978-455-3858 Email: Richard.B.Grove@gmail.com



### Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee needs help! Anyone interested in helping to prepare the course schedules and intersession programs, please contact Nancy Pitkin at n.pitkin@verizon.net.

### Facebook Page

Is there anyone willing to create and maintain a Facebook page for LIRA? Facebook is the cheapest form of advertising and reaches out to more people than we ever could. So if anyone would like to create a page for us, please contact Richard Grove at Richard.B.Grove@gmail.com.

## Member News

We are happy to learn that Beverly Rudeen had successful surgery for her back in July.

She recovered quickly and has already rejoined our activities.

Please let me know of any LIRA members who would like to be remembered so that I can send out cards.

Simone32Allard@gmail.com, tele 603-943-7527.



The Summer Intersession began with a walk around Walden Pond

# LIRA Annual Meeting Celebrates Toby Hodes



At LIRA's Annual Meeting May 20<sup>th</sup> we elected new leaders for 2015-2016 and we celebrated the outstanding leadership of LIRA President Toby Hodes. Toby served as president for six years, from 2009 through 2015. Toby worked to build a

strong relationship with UMass/Lowell so they would see LIRA as an important part of their community outreach. This relationship benefits LIRA through strong advocacy for our needs for classroom space and support by UMass/Lowell faculty and staff. One of Toby's crowning achievements was formalizing the relationship in a written Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) linking:

- LIRA
- Office of University Advancement
- Office of Alumni Relations
- Office of Community Relations

Before becoming President of LIRA Toby served on the Curriculum Committee and she was Chairperson of that committee for one year. We have all heard Toby say "We are the Learning in Retirement Association, and curriculum is the heart of what we do". She passionately believes that and she "walks the walk" in the courses she leads.

Toby leads the LIRA Book Group and it is the best book group I have been in. Toby and the members are very interested in the books we are discussing, all are well prepared, and Toby keeps the discussion focused. She also brings lot of supplementary research and materials. There is always room for more members so we invite you to give it a try!

Toby has done an outstanding job of succession planning and recruiting new LIRA leaders. This year we will have:

- A new president and vice-president: Richard Grove, John Mamalis
- New co-chairs for Curriculum: Nancy Pitkin and Russ MacLeod
- New co-chairs for Membership: Bonnie Heines and Jean Schott
- New co-chairs for Scholarship: Janet Redman and Deanne Sferrino
- We are seeking new co-chairs for Hospitality
- Having co-chairs is a great idea for LIRA – it means there are two people who know the role, share the work, and are backups for each other!

The good news is that we are all "retired" already and Toby is not "retiring from LIRA". She will continue as an enthusiastic LIRA member, leading the Book Group and facilitating the course **The Spiritual Brain: Science and Religious Experience**.

The Annual Meeting concluded with a standing ovation for Toby Hodes!

*Richard Grove*

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## Visit to Mosque in North Billerica

The mosque is the congregation serving a *Dawoodi Bohra Muslim* community in North Billerica. *Dawoodi Bohra Muslims* are a worldwide community of approximately one million followers who follow the lineage of 21 Imams of Ismaili Shi'ite all over the world. There are 1.5 million Muslims worldwide. Moiz Bhinderwala, a member of the board, made the presentation. He was very gracious, answering our questions and providing a lot of information. One hundred families from India, Pakistan and Africa attend. The mosque is led by a Spiritual Leader. The Mosque has two rooms: we enter into a "Gathering Room" and then into a second room which is the "place of worship". There are no pictures, idols or chairs. Men worship on the first floor; women on the second floor. (Belief that women "are a distraction.") They kneel

in prayer 5 times a day: dawn, 2 afternoons, dusk and later. The Mosque is always open. They believe that men and women are equal. Education and independence is very important. They have a school for religious education.

Mohammed was 40 years old when he became a prophet. He had no sons; one daughter named Fatima. In New England everything faces Mecca. Once a year the people travel (Hajra) to Mecca for a pilgrimage (Hajj) to Mecca. The Koran is the Book of Scriptures. It has 114 Chapter and 30 sections. It is written in Arabic and read from left to right. Belief: "NO GOD BUT ONE GOD". Islam is the religion. Muslim are the people. Moiz recommended a book: "Mullahs on the Main Frame: Islam and Modernity among the Dando Bohras by Jonah Blank.

*Marilyn Sicurella*

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## Parking Hangtags

**IMPORTANT:** The University is charging \$72 for all parking this year and hangtags are being issued at the Convocation on September 16. Please see the last page of the newsletter for directions and a form to use to obtain your hangtag.

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## Exercise Class

The exercise class starts the week after Labor Day, September 15, Tuesday and Thursdays from 1:00 - 2:30. The starting time is hard for anyone attending a Tuesday morning LIRA class but a 1:30 starting time wouldn't fit into the UML students' class schedules.



## LIRA'S Spotlight Members

### The Rudeens, Beverly and Kimball

I was able to interview Beverly when she came to my house to take over my "publicity" materials! As you will see, she and her husband, Kimball, are very interesting members of the LIRA community.

After retiring from an accounting position Beverly was determined to complete her work for her Bachelor's degree. She found she could accomplish that at UMass Lowell. So that makes her a college graduate with very up-to-date college level knowledge and skills. I am sure, many of us, me included, would enjoy revisiting and expanding our college level learning that has gone a bit stale over the years!

While studying at UMass Lowell and in becoming familiar with the university, she learned about LIRA and thought that it would be an interesting group to join when she had more free time after her studies.



So after Beverly picked up her diploma she joined LIRA according to plan! And when Kimball, her husband, a former senior software engineer at Raytheon, retired he also joined LIRA. One of their first and favorite classes together was one of Frank Carroll's Shakespeare classes. They have been active members in being presenters in 2 or 3 of the "European History...." class series.

Another interest of Beverly and Kimball has been an interest in collecting and selling science fiction literature. They have presented their collection and knowledge in this area with members in LIRA during a Winter Intersession in 2013. They like to attend and sell their books at Science Fiction conventions in the Northeast. Another interest is repurposing found articles as "Steampunk" art which they sell at the Science Fiction Convention Art Shows. They are also members of a Science Fiction book group in Salem, NH that they attend monthly.

They lived in Lexington before moving first to Dracut and then to Tyngsboro where they live now. At the present time they are excited about planning for their daughter's wedding for next May.

*Jeanne Gunion*

## Paul Marion

Paul Marion is the Executive Director of Community Relations at UMass Lowell. He represents UMass Lowell on many local committees and boards of organizations and links UMass Lowell campus resources and services to the greater community while bringing the benefits of community engagement to students, faculty, and staff. He is the consummate collaborator, and over the years he's held jobs and served on committees that created Lowell National Historical Park, Brush Art Gallery and Studios, Lowell Public Art Collection, the Jack Kerouac Commemorative and Boarding House Park. He's a founder of the Lowell Folk Festival and the Lowell Heritage Partnership.



I got to know Paul through the many meetings of the Mary Bacigalupo Educational Fund at UMass Lowell and I have volunteered with him at Lowell Heritage Partnership for the past 8 years.

Paul Marion doesn't brag about his accomplishments or take credit for making things happen. But behind the scenes, the soft-spoken Marion has been a key player in making Lowell a better place to live, work and play for nearly 40 years.

Paul, the author and editor of many books and articles, was invited to write a new book, "Mill Power: The Origin and Impact of Lowell National Park Historical Park", by the then superintendent of the Lowell National Park, Michael Creasey, (who is now the superintendent of the Boston National Historic Park). This book includes the cultural side of the whole experience, the human story. Typically, in historic preservation stories, there's a lot about buildings. This is an insider's account of the creative, bold community-driven process to establish the park that explains why today Lowell National Historical Park is renowned as "the partnership park."

In 2008 Paul received the Local Heroes award by Community Teamwork Inc. In 2012 the Greater Lowell Kiwanis Club honored Paul with the Thomas Kelekos Community Spirit Award. His work at UMass Lowell in the past decade has given him the chance to see community and culture intertwine on a larger scale.

"It's extraordinary to see how integrated the university is with the city, and education and culture are the best ways to continue moving forward here in Lowell," he said. .

Paul is proud he's played a part in Lowell's success.

"It's great being involved in something bigger than myself and to help people live fuller lives," is a great quote from Paul.

*Nancy Pitkin*

## The Treasures of Russia

Presentation by Bob Hanlon on April 22, 2015

In August 2014, Bob Hanlon toured both Moscow and Saint Petersburg with a group called Travel All Russia. There were so many interesting places to visit while he was on the 5-day tour. First, he visited Moscow. His first photo gave us an idea of the lovely sites he would see while on the tour! The famous Luzhkov Bridge over the Moskva River was one of the views of Moscow that we saw.

During Bob's presentation, we became aware that during the time of the Soviet Union, much emphasis was placed on displaying art to be viewed in museums as well as in the numerous architectural treasures in the country. The Tretyakov gallery of art built in 1856, contained many paintings contributed by a Moscow merchant. It is considered one of the greatest collections of Russian Art in the world. St. Basil's Cathedral, built over the grave of the saint, was photographed at night, fully illuminated.

During Communist rule, the practice of Christianity was not permitted, and churches in Russia were closed or used for other purposes. Many of them are now again functioning churches, while others have become museums. The Kremlin, on Red Square, was also very impressive. The group was permitted to enter the Kremlin where they visited the Armory Museum and saw churches where the tsars worshipped and were crowned. Bob took a Moscow by Night tour where he saw the Novodevichy convent, now a World Heritage site.

It seemed very surprising to learn that the subways in

metropolitan Moscow are artfully decorated, as if they were places where museum treasures were displayed. The art work has themes such as the 24 hour Soviet sky and the fight for freedom. The stations are adorned with statues, ceiling mosaics as well as colorful tile floors and stained glass panels. What a sight it was to see light shining through the stained glass panels. The first subway there opened for use in 1935.

After touring Moscow, Bob's group went by train to St. Petersburg, a six-hour train ride north. On arrival, they saw the imposing Peter and Paul fortress and the large cathedral nearby. Very elaborate gold adornment was prevalent in the Peter and Paul Cathedral. Bob also visited St. Isaac's Cathedral with its dome plated in pure gold and its carved bronze covered in reliefs as well as The Church of the Spilled Blood.

The Hermitage Museum, was founded by Catherine the Great. It started out as just a small section of the Winter Palace of the tsars. It now contains the largest collection of paintings in the world. Catherine collected a lot of its art.

The tour took the group to the lovely Peterhof Palace and gardens of Peter the Great outside of the city on the Gulf of Finland. The palace is famous for its fountains. This was Peter's summer palace. Some of the palace architecture was designed in the style of the French king, Louis XIV.

Travel All Russia provided a night boat trip, a visit to the Swan Lake ballet and an evening spent enjoying local folk music. What a busy 5 days Bob spent in Russia!

*Jean Schott*

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## The Hidden Treasures of Korean Art and Modern Korea

LIRA members were delighted to have a presentation by the Korean Spirit & Culture Promotion Project, a non-profit group whose goal is to promote Korean history and culture to the wider world. Ms. Kyung Pak, President of the organization, introduced DVD's that described some of the 50 Wonders of Korea, as well as modern Korea. She explained that the philosophy of Korea stresses the importance of devotion, perseverance, and compassion.

Some of the Wonders of Korea included the Divine Bell of King Songdok. The bell's toll can be heard up to 40 miles away and has a unique pattern of sound. Another was the 750-year-old Tripitaka Koreana, the teachings of Buddha engraved on 80,000 wooden plates. The Hangeul alphabet was invented by King Sejong in the 15<sup>th</sup> century and is called "the alphabet of compassion." Its simplified characters enabled more people to become literate, and the alphabet is used by some cultures that do not have their own.

Modern Korea is a technological wonder! In the field of health care, the first multiple liver transplant was in Korea, and special coronary stents were invented there. Industry includes

shipbuilding, and the top five shipbuilding companies in the world are Korean, with Hyundai being the largest. The digital revolution has happened in Korea as well. For example, Korean commuters can use their digital phones to grocery shop at subway stations as they wait for their train. They can use their phone to arrange the date and time of delivery, as well as pay for the purchase.



Loretta Curtis with three women in traditional Korean costumes.

Inset is a handmade lotus lantern, several of which were given to LIRA members.

Ms. Pak and two other members of her organization arrived in beautiful traditional Korean costumes. They brought four complimentary books about Korea for LIRA members, as well as four types of home-made Korean desserts and a punch made from rice. They also brought lovely lotus lanterns, symbols of compassion, and even gave those to LIRA members! The presenters drove to Lowell from New York in the morning and were returning right after our program, another example of their generosity and dedication to their goal. The organization's website has videos and publications that can be downloaded at no charge ([www.kscpp.net](http://www.kscpp.net)), if you would like to learn more.

*Sheila Parisea*

## Genetically Modified Organisms

On Wednesday, July 8th, Phil Jones of Jones Farm in Chelmsford spoke to a small but enthusiastic group of members and guests about the dangers and drawbacks of GMOs versus his farming system of growing nutrient-dense organic produce. Phil maintained that farmers don't necessarily need to produce more food (one of Monsanto's reasons promoting GMOs) but more nutritious food. This can be achieved by creating soil with the proper mineral balance and using organic methods resulting in healthier and more nutritious plants. Phil demonstrated this by having us view the juices of a tomato leaf through a refractometer which measures the sugar content and nutritional value known as the brix level. We realized that today's farmer must also be a biologist, a chemist and an agricultural engineer. Farming is an occupation critical to all of us. As Phil's T-shirt proclaimed - "No Farms, No Food".

*Margaret Brown*

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## 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, Suzanne Knapp for the professional layouts, Shirley Mitchell for labeling, folding, sealing and mailing them out. 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](http://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](mailto:jeridurant@gmail.com). 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.

Thanks again to everyone for their support.

*Jeri Durant*



## 2015/2016 LIRA Dues Payable Now

This is a reminder that LIRA dues for the 2015/2016 year are due **NOW**. Amounts remain the same as in the past: \$125 for single membership and \$200 for a couple per year. Dues must be paid before signing up for any courses or trips at the Convocation on September 16.

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.

In order to assist UMass Lowell with its LIRA database, we are asking current members to use the LIRA renewal form printed in this Newsletter. Every member must complete a form. If you are renewing a single membership use the bottom half of the form, snip and mail with a check as directed. Both persons of a couple must complete separate information, so use both forms on the page and send the entire page with a single check. Send form(s) and check to the Alumni Office, as directed, on the renewal form **before the Convocation on September 16**.

Because of the confusion it causes, dues checks will be accepted at the Convocation meeting **by exception only**.

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

It was a great year and now we look forward to seeing you again in the next academic year.

*Bonnie Heines and Jean Schott, Membership Co-chairs*

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## Not good bye!

I want to express my sincerest gratitude for the thoughtful gifts I received at LIRA's Annual Meeting in May. The clock will be a constant reminder of the good times I have enjoyed with all of you, and I will certainly make good use of the generous Amazon gift certificate. However, the most important gift that you have given me has been the opportunity to serve as your president, and to be the recipient of your friendship and support. I am extremely proud of the way, with everyone's enthusiasm and help, LIRA has grown and prospered. I look forward to continuing my activities in LIRA and to its ongoing health and vitality.

Thank you, thank you, thank you.

*Toby Hodes*



The Holiday Party is scheduled for Wednesday, December 9. More details about the party will appear in the next newsletter.



## Moses Greeley Parker Lectures

The following is a calendar of events for the 2015-2016 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.parkerlec.com](http://www.parkerlec.com) or the file can be emailed to you by contacting Jeri Durant: [jeridurant@gmail.com](mailto:jeridurant@gmail.com)

Monday, September 21, 11:45 a.m. – UMass Lowell Inn and Conference Center  
Howard Bauchner – “US Health Care: Important Emerging Policy Issues”

Thursday, September 24, 7:00 p.m. – Pollard Library  
Thatcher Freund – “Why Your Story Matters”

Sunday, October 4, 2:00 p.m. – American Textile History Museum  
Meg Noonan – “The Coat Route: Craft, Luxury & Obsession on the Trail of a \$50,000 Coat”

Saturday, October 10, 2:00 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center  
Tim Z. Hernandez – “Searching for the Real Mexican Girl”

Wednesday, October 14, 11:45 a.m. – Moloney Hall at University Crossing  
Daniel Korschun – “WE ARE MARKET BASKET”

Thursday, October 15, 7:00 p.m. – Pollard Library  
Haley Sweetland Edwards – “Dancing on the Heads of Snakes”

Sunday, October 18, 2:00 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center  
Dylan Craig – “The Return of the Hessians”

Thursday, October 22, 7:00 p.m. – Pollard Library  
Russell Powell – “Discover the Apples of New England”

Sunday, October 25, 2:00 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center  
Willem Lange – “A Yankee Notebook”

Sunday, November 1, 2:00 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center  
Andrew E. Smith & David W. Moore – “The First Primary”

Sunday, November 8, 2:00 p.m. – American Textile History Museum  
Madelyn Shaw – “A Downton Abbey Fashion Primer, 1912-1925”

Sunday, November 15, 2:00 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center  
M. William Phelps – “Historic Female Serial Killers: Arsenic and Old Lace-The True Story”

Thursday, November 19, 7:00 p.m. – Pollard Library  
Carlo Rotella – “Music, Memory, and the City: A Journey Back to the Old Neighborhood”



### 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 Members***

Marcella Szczepanik  
1310 Methuen Street  
Dracut, MA 01826  
Phone: 978-454-3573  
Email: [szczmarcy@comcast.net](mailto:szczmarcy@comcast.net)

#### ***Address Change:***

Martha Hill  
4206 Princeton Way  
Westford, MA 01886  
978-577-6129  
[marthavthill@gmail.com](mailto:marthavthill@gmail.com)

#### **Newsletter Committee**

Geraldine Durant, Editor & Calendar  
[jeridurant@gmail.com](mailto:jeridurant@gmail.com)  
Suzanne Knapp, Layout & Reproduction  
[knapp.sc@gmail.com](mailto:knapp.sc@gmail.com)  
Shirley Mitchell, Distribution [shirleytm2@comcast.net](mailto:shirleytm2@comcast.net)  
Simone Allard, Member News  
[simone32allard@gmail.com](mailto:simone32allard@gmail.com)  
Jeanne Gunion, Member Spotlight [jgunion@comcast.net](mailto:jgunion@comcast.net)

## LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

University of Massachusetts Lowell

Lowell, Massachusetts 01834

### Fall 2015 Schedule

Fall study groups will meet at the University Suites, 327 Aiken Street, Lowell, MA, Room #106 with the exception of November 5, AM and PM classes which will meet in the Talon Room at the Tsongas Center. See directions, including parking, by visiting the web site at [www.uml.edu/community/lira](http://www.uml.edu/community/lira). Registration will take place at Convocation on Wednesday, September 16 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 coordinator.

#### **Understanding the Inventions that Changed the World**

Facilitator: Bob Hanlon\*

7 Mondays, 10:00 a.m. to Noon September 21, 28, October 5, 19, 26, November 2, 9

We are surrounded by inventions. Consider the clocks, appliances, and transportation that coordinate our days. Or the televisions, cell phones, and social media that connect us to each other. Where did all these inventions come from? How do they work? And how do they reflect—even define—the values of our culture? Now, you can learn the remarkable stories surrounding monumental inventions such as Clocks, Automobiles, Radio, TV, Nuclear Power and more—and how consequential these inventions were to history—in **Understanding the Inventions That Changed the World**. Taught by Professor W. Bernard Carlson of the University of Virginia, who is an expert on the role of innovation in history, these enlightening lectures give you a broad survey of material history. Along with recounting the famous inventions you might expect, such as the steam engine, the airplane, and the atomic bomb, this course explores a number of surprising innovations, including beer, pagodas, and the operating room.

Coordinator: Alan Kent\*

#### **European History and European Lives**

Facilitator: Dorothy Bromage\*

2 Mondays 1:00-3:00 p.m. September 21, 28

The most influential people who lived during the 200 most difficult years in the history of the West form the subject of this dramatically different course. They lived during the years 1715 -1914. Who were these artists, writers, scientists, and leaders in the context of history? How and why did their lives shape our time and reflect their own? Each lecture includes the social and economic scene at that time. Thirteen of the series have already been shown, and this fall, two more are scheduled. "Pius IX" is one and "The Irish Starve" is the other. (It is the one exception to covering individuals but rather chronicles a group.) Following the video lecture, important supplemental information is provided by LIRA members.

Coordinator: Jean Schott\*

#### **Shakespeare: King Lear**

Presenter: Frank Carroll\*

6 Mondays, 1:00-3:00 p.m. October 5, 19, 26, November 2, 9, 16

In the many years we have been looking at Shakespeare's plays, we have read most of the 36 plays he is known to have written. One play, "Hamlet", we have done twice because of a desire of the class to do so. Consequently, when deciding about the next play, I mentioned doing "King Lear" again, and yes, again most agreed that it was a great idea. So, we will read "Lear" again in the fall. Despite the violence and the sadness it is generally acknowledged as one of Shakespeare's greatest creations.

There are several sources that Shakespeare could have read and used for the story of "Lear". The earliest rendition of the "Lear" story is found in the "Historia" of Geoffrey of Monmouth probably from the 12th century. The most logical source would be the telling of the "Lear" story in Holinshed's Chronicles which is a much later version. Most of the characters are "extreme depictions", to quote Otis and Needleman's "History of English Literature". We can't imagine a king in good health and spirits, resigning and dividing his kingdom among his daughters. However, Shakespeare makes it believable nevertheless. The parts to be left to each daughter depend on each one's ability to tell the king how much they love him. Well, we will find out. Those who join the group should have a copy of "King Lear" and other than that, we hope to see any and all Shakespeare lovers.

Coordinator: Barbara Page\*

## **“Staying Alive”: Healthy Mind, Body and Spirit**

Presenter: Andrea Mendes

8 Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. to Noon September 22, 29, October 6, 13, 20, 27, November 3, 10



Eight Doctoral students in Physical Therapy present this program designed to keep you healthy into your retirement years. Topics will include: Nutrition, Bone Health, Exercise, Relaxation and Stress Reduction, Meditation and Navigating the Healthcare World.....and more. Please join us!

## **The Spiritual Brain: Science and Religious Experience**

Facilitator: Toby Hodes\*

7 Tuesdays, 1:00-3:00 p.m. September 29, October 6, 13, 20, 27, November 3, 10

Human beings have spiritual brains—brains that are capable of feeling deeply connected to something greater than themselves and that can develop intensive beliefs about religion. A major theme of this course is to explore where spiritual beliefs come from. Drawing upon the latest research linking modern neuroscience and spirituality, this course will attempt to shine a light into the deepest parts of the human mind and spirit, revealing the fascinating relationship between the universal spiritual urge and the intricate workings of the human brain.

Coordinator: Jackie Carr\*

## **Art and Music**

7 sessions usually Wednesday September 30, October 8, 14, 21, 28, November 4, 18

Beginning September 30 and continuing through November 18, meetings will start at 10:00 a.m. and go until Noon, except for October 8, which is the Thursday trip to the BSO Open Rehearsal. 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.

## **Great Decisions**

Facilitator: Richard Grove\*

7 Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. to Noon September 24, October 1, 15, 22, 29, November 5, 12

1 Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. to Noon October 7 (8 sessions)

**NOTE:** Class on November 5 will meet in the Talon Room at the Tsongas Center

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: India Changes Course, Sectarianism in the Middle East, Syria's Refugee Crisis, and U.S. Policy Toward Africa. Briefing books are available for \$16.00.

## **Digital Travel Photography**

Facilitator: Skip Youngberg\*

3 Thursdays, 1:00-3:00 p.m. September 24, October 1, 15

1 Wednesday, 1:00-3:00 p.m. October 7 (4 sessions)

Travel season doesn't end in September and neither does the opportunity to take great pictures. We have a short course from National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore and plan on expanding on it with some in-class experimentation. Bring your Brownie, your Pocket Instamatic, your I-Phone, your Nikon, or whatever you have and we'll all learn together.

Coordinator: Terri Munson\*



## **The Presidential Election 2016**

Presenter: Frank Talty

4 Thursdays 1:00-3:00 p.m. October 22, 29, November 5, 12

**NOTE:** Class on November 5 will meet in the Talon Room at the Tsongas Center

A new President will be elected in November 2016. President Obama's second term expires and we will have an open seat for the Presidency. Both of the major parties have interesting contests for their choice to be the next President. Democrats will have to decide whether it's Hillary Clinton or somebody else, while the Republicans have a long list of contenders. 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 look at how caucuses operate, the significance of Presidential Preference Primaries, the convention delegate selection process, how conventions operate in choosing a nominee, and vice presidential nominee, and finally we will look at how the Electoral College operates and produces a President.

Coordinator: Nancy Pitkin\*

## **Great Decisions Sampler**

Facilitator: Richard Grove\*

4 Fridays 10:00 a.m. to Noon September 25, October 2, October 30, and November 6

Great Decisions Sampler is an opportunity to get a taste of the Great Decisions program. Each two-hour session will cover one Great Decisions topic. The September 25 topic is Russia and the Near Abroad, Russia's actions and policy in Crimea, Ukraine, and Eastern Europe. Participants will select the other three topics to be discussed. Briefing books are available for \$16.00.

## **Book Discussion**

Facilitator: Toby Hodes\*

4 Fridays, 10:00 a.m. to Noon September 18, October 16, November 20, December 18

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:

September 18 - *Truman* by David McCullough (Biography)

October 16 - *The Nightingale* by Kristen Hannah (Historical Fiction)

November 20 - *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel Brown (Non Fiction)

December 18 - *The Dante Club* by Matthew Pearl (Fiction)

\*Denotes a LIRA member

# Art and Music Fall 2015

Programs on September 30, October 21, 28, November 4 and 18 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 16 Fall Convocation. If you cannot attend, you may ask someone to put your name on the list for your choice of tours. **Please remember that if you have paid for a tour and you are unable to go, a 24 hour notice to the coordinator, prior to the tour is required if you want a refund.**

**Wednesday, September 23 Yom Kippur**  
NO CLASS

**Wednesday, September 30 Armenian Culture**

Therese & Mihran Keoseian will do a presentation on Armenian culture and will be using some of Barbara Murch's photos.

Coordinator: Barbara Murch\*

**Thursday, October 8 Boston Symphony Orchestra Open Rehearsal**

The program will be: Currier Divisions (BSO co-commission), Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 3, and Brahms Symphony No. 2 with Andris Nelsons Conductor and Paul Lewis Piano.

Tickets including bus transportation are \$30 for members, \$35 for non-members if tickets are available. The bus leaves from the back of Hannaford's driveway in Chelmsford promptly at **7:15 AM**. Send checks to: Jean Rubinstein, 15 Fairbanks Rd, Chelmsford, MA 01824, 978-256-9942 /978-761-0022. Checks are to be made to **LIRA INC.** and are due no later than **September 28, 2015.**

Coordinator: Jean Rubinstein\*

**Wednesday, October 14 Methuen Memorial Music Hall Guided Tour & Organ Concert**

No need to travel to Europe! The Music Hall's Great Organ, built in the mid-1850s, was purchased by Edward F. Searles of Methuen in 1897, rebuilt and erected in a specially-built concert hall. This first concert organ in the United States exerted considerable influence on American organ design and construction during the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Robert J. Reich, former President and co-founder of Andover Organ Company will be our distinguished speaker. We plan to arrive at 10:00 am, depart around noon.

Directions will be available at the Convocation. Carpools meet at the Chelmsford Hannaford's side parking lot at 9:15 am. If you plan to drive or ride from Hannaford, please sign up at Convocation or contact Carol McCarthy 978-256-5904; [jfmccart@aol.com](mailto:jfmccart@aol.com)

Coordinators: Loretta Curtis\* and Carol McCarthy\*

**Wednesdays, October 21 The Art of Mexico: Part I**

Presenter: Jean Schott\*

The art of Mexico will be covered in two sessions. Part I will deal with the early centuries.

Coordinator: Barbara Page\*

**Wednesday, October 28 The Art of Mexico: Part II**

Presenter: Jean Schott\*

Part II will cover up through the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Coordinator: Barbara Page\*

**Wednesday, November 4 What's Going On Here?**

Presenter: Dorothy Bromage\*

In the spring, we took a look at two variations for orchestra: one by Salieri, one by Ravel. Now Brahms and Rachmaninov provide selections that highlight the various instruments and moods. From the fun of Brahms, ("Variations on a Theme of Haydn") to the drama of Rachmaninov ("Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini"), there is much to learn and enjoy--for example the 18<sup>th</sup> variation of the Paganini variations, in which the melody is inverted and ends up in a score for a movie.

Coordinator: Barbara Page\*

**Wednesday, November 11 Veteran's Day (UMass Lowell closed)**

NO CLASS

**Wednesday, November 18 The People and Places of Cuba**

Presenter: Connie Lanseigne-Case\*

Before US tourism is possible again to the island nation, Connie participated in an educational exchange program in June, visiting with artists, students and seniors for 8 days. The visit to Havana harked back to the 40s and 50s.

Coordinator: Barbara Page\*

\*Denotes a LIRA member

# LIRA's Fall 2014 Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
September 14	September 15	September 16 10 am to Noon Fall Convocation Cumnock Hall	September 17	September 18 10 am to Noon Book Discussion <i>Truman-D McCullough</i>
September 21 10 am to Noon Understanding Inventions that Changed the World 1 to 3 pm European History/Lives	September 22 10 am to Noon Staying Alive: Healthy Mind, Body, Spirit	September 23  NO CLASS	September 24 10 am to Noon  Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm Digital Travel Photography	September 25  10 am to Noon Great Decisions Sampler
September 28 10 am to Noon Understanding Inventions that Changed the World 1 to 3 pm European History/Lives	September 29 10 am to Noon Staying Alive: Healthy Mind, Body, Spirit 1 to 3 pm Spiritual Brain: Science and Religious Experience	September 30 10 am to Noon  Armenian Culture	October 1 10 am to Noon  Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm Digital Travel Photography	October 2  10 am to Noon Great Decisions Sampler
October 5 10 am to Noon Understanding Inventions that Changed the World 1 to 3 pm Shakespeare: King Lear	October 6 10 am to Noon Staying Alive: Healthy Mind, Body, Spirit 1 to 3 pm Spiritual Brain: Science and Religious Experience	October 7  10 am to Noon Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm Digital Travel Photography	October 8  BSO Open Rehearsal, Boston Meet at 7:15 am at Hannaford for bus	October 9  10 am to Noon Chelmsford Library Lecture
October 12  NO CLASS Columbus Day	October 13 10 am to Noon Staying Alive: Healthy Mind, Body, Spirit 1 to 3 pm Spiritual Brain: Science and Religious Experience	October 14 Meet at Hannaford at 9:15 to carpool Methuen Memorial Music Hall Guided Tour & Organ Concert	October 15 10 am to Noon  Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm Digital Travel Photography	October 16  10 am to Noon <i>The Nightingale</i> by Kristsin Hannah



<b>October 19</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> Understanding Inventions <b>1 to 3 pm</b> Shakespeare: King Lear	<b>October 20</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> Staying Alive <b>1 to 3 pm</b> Spiritual Brain	<b>October 21</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> The Art of Mexico, Part I Jean Schott	<b>October 22</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> Great Decisions <b>1 to 3 pm</b> Presidential Election 2016	<b>October 23</b>
<b>October 26</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> Understanding Inventions <b>1 to 3 pm</b> Shakespeare: King Lear	<b>October 27</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> Staying Alive <b>1 to 3 pm</b> Spiritual Brain	<b>October 28</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> The Art of Mexico, Part II Jean Schott	<b>October 29</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> Great Decisions <b>1 to 3 pm</b> Presidential Election 2016	<b>October 30</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b> Great Decisions Sampler
<b>November 2</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> Understanding Inventions <b>1 to 3 pm</b> Shakespeare: King Lear	<b>November 3</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> Staying Alive <b>1 to 3 pm</b> Spiritual Brain	<b>November 4</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> What's Going On Here? Dorothy Bromage	<b>November 5</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> Great Decisions <b>1 to 3 pm</b> Presidential Election 2016	<b>November 6</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b> Great Decisions Sampler
<b>November 9</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> Understanding Inventions <b>1 to 3 pm</b> Shakespeare: King Lear	<b>November 10</b>	<b>November 11</b>  <b>Veteran's Day</b> <b>NO CLASSES</b>	<b>November 12</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> Great Decisions <b>1 to 3 pm</b> Presidential Election 2016	<b>November 13</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b> Chelmsford Library Lecture
<b>November 16</b>	<b>November 17</b>	<b>November 18</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> The People and Places of Cuba – Connie Lanseigne- Case	<b>November 19</b>	<b>November 20</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> Book Discussion <i>The Boys in the Boat</i> by Daniel Brown
<b>December 7</b>	<b>December 8</b>	<b>December 9</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> <b>Holiday Party</b> <b>Cumnock Hall</b>	<b>December 10</b>	<b>December 11</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> Chelmsford Library Lecture
<b>December 14</b>	<b>December 15</b>	<b>December 16</b>	<b>December 17</b>	<b>December 18</b> <b>10 am to Noon</b> Book Discussion <i>The Dante Club</i> by Matthew Pearl

**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 Jeri Durant to send by US mail.

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

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

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Newsletter will be delivered by EMAIL unless you have notified Jeri Durant to send by US mail.

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

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

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

Please return Renewals (or apply online by credit card) with a check payable to UMass Lowell, memo line LIRA, and mail to:

Office of Alumni Relations, Charles J. Hoff Scholarship Center  
UMass Lowell  
One Perkins Street  
Lowell, MA 01854





# Parking Hangtags

**Please read the following carefully.** The University is charging for all parking this year and is issuing hangtags rather than decals. This will make almost all parking lots available to LIRA Members, with just a few exceptions. They have agreed to give Richard the hangtags, but he must return all unused hangtags immediately after our meeting on September 16.

Please fill out the parking permit form below along with a \$72 check made out to UMass Lowell and **bring it to the Convocation on September 16.** 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 \$72.

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 \$72** and mail it to Richard Grove, 27 Windemere Lane, N. Chelmsford, MA 01863 **BEFORE** September 16, 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.

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

**Last Name**

**MI**

**First Name**

**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 / DECAL NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_