President’s Corner: Summertime and the Living is Easy?

Our Annual Luncheon/Meeting was held March 18th. We had beautiful weather, delicious food, lovely surroundings and very enjoyable entertainment. One of Ricky Nelson’s songs sounded so good with Acclaim, the barbershop quartet singing it. We presented another 90-year old member, Robert Ward, a commemorative plaque. This age milestone also entitles him to free membership to the ILR.

I feel like we need a drum roll at this time, since our membership has reached an all time high of 864! What is going on? It must be the excellent work of the curriculum, social and travel committees putting together so many wonderful choices of places to go, things to do and see. Keep up the great work committees!

I want to give a special “shout out” to a couple of our members who work so diligently behind the scenes- Trude Engelund and Daisy Smith. Trude organizes the volunteers for any special mailing, office duty, etc. as needed and has done so for a number of years. Daisy is in charge of our annual art show and is the backbone of putting this talented group of people together for all of us to enjoy the final product. My hat is off to both of these ladies!!

Our office has a new part-time staff member, Theresa Burgess. Theresa is assisting in all the busy things that happen every day at the ILR, such as phone messages, visitors dropping in, vouchers that need to be mailed, and any other of the services our office provides.

As always, the need for volunteers never goes away. Anyone interested in signing up can make it known while they are attending a class, sending in summer schedule registration or by calling the name listed for the committee you want to serve on. The committees and chairpersons are listed in this newsletter. Don’t be bashful!! Safe travels this summer!!

~~ Sandy Barczak

The ILR offers a scholarship to a worthy ODU graduate student!
The scholarship is a substantial $2000 per semester for up to four (4) semesters, contingent upon academic performance. So…if you know any worthy ODU graduate student looking for financial assistance… tell him or her to check with ODU for details and application materials. Applications need to be in to ILR by June 20…so, time is getting short!

~~ Don Christensen
Board Members, 2016-2017:
President, Sandy Barczak
Vice President, Don Christensen
Secretary, Betsy Coffelt
Treasurer, Stan Weisberger
Historian, Bill Moyse
At-Large Board Members:
Betsy Blank
Mary DeLaney

Committee Chairs:
Communications & Technology: Dave Hamby
Curriculum: Jane Martin, Diane Prince
Membership: Dorothy Wolfred
Nominating: Jack Kotvas
Social: Susan Clarke
Travel: DeeDee Rockefeller, Betsy Blank
Volunteer: Trude Engelund
Administrator: Theo Rozdilsky
Admin. Assistant: Theresa Burgess
Bookkeeper: Robert Chapin
Newsletter Editor: Carolyn Schmick

Meet our newest family member.
In her words…..

May I introduce you to…me? Hi, I am Theresa Burgess, Theo’s assistant in the ILR office. I started helping her in April and have enjoyed meeting many of you in my few weeks here.

A bit of an anomaly for the “Tidewater” area, a reference that should tell you how long I’ve been here, I am a Norfolk native, born and raised. Go Pilots!! I moved to Virginia Beach as an adult, where I continue to live.

I have a son and daughter who live locally. They were both born at home; one on purpose, one…not so much! We homeschooled and attended TCC during overlapping years, including two study abroad trips to Ireland. We make a wonderful team and they are a true blessing to me.

I worked in the world of medical and life insurance prior to marriage, and recently returned as my former associate moves toward retirement. I maintain my licenses to assist people on an independent basis.

My activities include volunteering at church where I teach 3 to 8 year olds, assist in music, direct our Vacation Bible School, and recently co-coordinated a Ladies’ Conference. Also, the field of natural health remedies has been a decades-long interest.

I look forward to taking all these experiences and applying the lessons I’ve learned to serve the members of the ILR. You are an imaginative, varied, fun and engaging group, and I am honored to be a part.

~~ Theresa Burgess

NEWCOMERS
February 16, 2016—May 16, 2016
We hope you will participate in our classes and volunteer your time and talent.

Chesapeake: Ed & Denise Carbaugh, Tony & Edna Constand, Joan Larson, Nanette McLeod
Norfolk: Jane Coe, Michael & Gail Dingerson, Fran Jacobson, Jane Montagna, Robert & Judy Rubin
Splinters from the Board

The purpose of this article is to offer the membership enhanced access to the issues discussed at the meeting of the Board of Directors, by providing a brief description of the more important matters that came before the Board since the last newsletter.

Annual Luncheon/Meeting March 18, 2016 at Westminster-Canterbury

Our delicious luncheon began at noon, followed by our lively entertainment at 1:00 pm with ACCLAIM, the barbershop style quartet performing many songs our audience recognized. Following the entertainment, we began our business portion of the meeting. The following people were recognized: ODU guests; our scholarship recipient, Nevin Mapp; past presidents of ILR; current board members; committee chairpersons; and all the dedicated volunteers that keep our organization running smoothly all year. I also presented Robert Ward with a Silverado certificate, as he turned 90 years old and is now entitled to free ILR membership. The past year has been a very productive and successful year for our ILR. We are growing by leaps and bounds and offer great classes, social events and trips, in addition to two art shows. The nominated slate of Board of Directors was voted on and approved. The names are listed in this newsletter. Many thanks to the Social Committee for another well-planned and successful event.

April 13 Board minutes

The President introduced our new part-time staff member, Theresa Burgess. Welcome, Theresa to help with our growing membership.

- **Treasurer:** The proposed budget was handed out and tabled until the next meeting.
- **Curriculum:** Five (5) spring classes had 100+ in attendance. We have had some new volunteers join the committee, thanks to our new trifold brochure.
- **Membership:** Current membership is 806.
- **Social:** We had 106 members attend the annual luncheon/meeting this year.
- **Travel:** The Washington DC trip was a success. The committee is looking at adding two extra day trips to the agenda and another overnight trip in September.
- **Nominating:** Jack Kotvas is investigating a new person to service as volunteer committee chairperson.
- **Communication & Technology:** Dave Hamby gave a very informative overview of various software options as a possible solution to help the ILR office workload.
- **Newsletter Editor:** Carolyn Schmick is looking for photos from the DC trip for the newsletter.

May 11 Board minutes

The President mentioned that only one application had arrived for the new scholarship to be awarded to a graduate student this summer. Coffee and Conversation on Monday, May 9th, was very successful and moved smoothly with the help of many volunteers. Thank you one and all!

- **Treasurer:** The 2016-2017 budget was discussed at length and was approved.
- **Curriculum Committee:** The slots for the summer schedule have been filled and the schedule will be mailed early June.
- **Membership and Promotion:** Membership is currently at a record high of 846!
- **Volunteer:** Trude has added two (2) new members to her committee.
- **Social:** Lantern Asia at the Botanical Gardens was well attended and enjoyed despite the cool weather. Brock Environmental Center is going to accommodate everyone who signed up.
- **Travel Committee:** The Richmond trip is all set and the committee is working on the fall schedule.
- **Communications & Technology:** Dave Hamby explained the committee is discussing the possible new software with customers who are currently using it.

~~ Sandy Barczak
CLASSES
Since the ILR membership has grown and speakers are attracting large audiences, we want to make the business of providing programs go as smoothly as possible. To eliminate confusion, please attend only your registered classes. Calling the office a few days ahead can usually accommodate any changes in your schedule and still ensure an accurate roster for the event.

NAMETAGS
Have you attended an event and not remembered someone’s name? We provided nametags not only to identify who is a guest and who is a member, but also to make all participants feel at ease among friends. So keep your nametag with your parking permit and remember to display both.

TRIPS
Trips book up quickly. Volunteers hate to say no, but there are only so many seats on a bus. So "first come, first served" is the best advice for travelers.

HELP WANTED
The Social Committee organized events and activities that help foster educational and social events in the local community. We meet at 12:15pm on the third Thursday of the month at the VBHEC (Higher Education Center).

Duties can include:
- Organizing a variety of events in the local area, such as theaters, museums, lunch or dinner
- Producing Flyers for the events
- Helping with the Annual Luncheon and Meeting held in March
- Assisting with in-home parties, i.e., Valentine’s Party and Potluck Dinner

What we offer:
- Opportunity to learn more about our local area and what is offered for social events for the ILR Members
- Support for each other
- Lots of laughter and fellowship

ILR Art Show 2016
Another ILR Art Show is in the works for October 2016. This will be our 9th! We have many members with all ranges of artistic talent, in all types of media from oils to needlepoint to watercolors to ships in bottles. As to talent, who is to judge? We have folks who actually sell their pieces, but others who just love the joy of creating a work of art. And the really great part is there will be a wine and cheese affair for the evening grand opening. So if you are interested in participating this coming October, please contact the ILR office 368-4160 or Daisy Smith artsy@macs.net.

~~ Judy Schooley
Hildebrandt’s ILR talk will be held in August, when current Olympic athletes will be celebrating in Rio. After reading Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown and Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand, he realized that Olympic history will be made again this summer, and adults may want to revisit that arena. He said that even though the competition has increased in size and commercialization, the world’s best athletes are still facing each other as individuals in the spotlight.

After college and Naval Officers Candidate School, Art was commissioned as an Ensign, and Little Creek Amphibious base was his first active duty station. Later he served as the Senior Advisor to Vietnamese River Patrol Group 53. The Navy Office of Counsel hired him just out of law school to provide legal advice and council in government contracting for aircraft, missile and weapons systems. There he met his wife Jean, who then was a contract specialist, and the family remained in the Washington D.C area. During Art’s last six years in the Navy Litigation Office, he managed about 750 civilian attorneys linked around the globe enabling colleagues to collaborate on issues 24 hours a day. Before retiring, he received the Senior Executive Service Presidential Rank Award, Distinguished Executive in 2006.

Art and Jean first retired in Ohio where they attended lectures at an adult education program for seniors at Cuyahoga Community College, known as Tri-C. One day a week, seniors had a choice of three lectures each hour, plus they visited and ate lunch in the student center. With his wide interests in law, history, geography, and current events, he soon created a seven-lecture course and became a presenter.

To be near their grandchildren and away from the snow, Art and Jean moved from Ohio to Chesapeake where they built a house two years ago. Commendations and awards for years of government service cover the walls of his workroom upstairs, but instead of desk supplies he has tools. There he cuts stained glass for windows, a hobby he has pursued for years. More recently at his wife’s suggestion, he learned Viking weaving and now makes woven wire necklaces and bracelets.

Look for Art’s name on upcoming ILR course lists. Besides a look at the 1936 Olympics, he is preparing two presentations for the fall: one deals with contested Presidential elections and the other explores the Curse of Chief Tecumseh on the US Presidency.

~~ Interview with Art Hildebrandt By Fran Scott
Love to Travel? Thinking of Travel?

ILR member Nancy McWilliams is well into the process of forming a “Travel Group” for ILR members interested in meeting possible travel companions, getting firsthand information about various tour companies, travel insurance options, and even possibly taking foreign language classes to help with better travel immersion.

So far there have been two meetings (April 5th and May 3rd). Members have shared some of their adventures in an open forum setting and have mentioned what their future travel interests are. Alaska both land and sea, various USA National Park excursions, African adventures, and even French or Italian cooking class tours are all on various bucket lists. It would be nice to share a room with someone you know and maybe save some cash. It can be comforting just knowing someone else on the same trip.

We are in the process of getting to know each other better and researching destinations. We would love to have you join us if this is your “thing”. The meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at the VBHEC with room number posted on the ILR office door (room 125). If you have questions please contact Nancy at njm622@icloud.com.

Preview of Our Finances

The end of May is the end of our fiscal year. It will take about a month and a half to close the books and get the real numbers for this year. Nevertheless, we are confident that the current numbers are harbingers of good news.

We now have 845 members, the largest membership in our 23 years. The accompanying article will address some of issues that this number creates. The active membership drives our financials. We will generate income by the end of May about $112K, about $18K more than we budgeted. Our expenses will be about $99K, more than $12K than we budgeted. Other expenses include our ODU scholarship, $4,000. Our bottom line will be a profit about $9,000, about $6,200 more than we budgeted.

As we look back on our lives, we see breathtaking changes: how we communicate, how we receive our entertainment, what meds we take! The ILR world is also changing and we have to make sure that ILR can stand up to its challenges. In the next few months we will have to make minor changes in the bookkeeping structure and in the system that supports the bookkeeping process. The changes will improve the accuracy and precision of our books.

Our Administrative Future

At the end of May, 2012 we had 647 members. Every year since then we have grown: 2013, 692; 2014, 750; 2015, 769; today, 845 members, including 254 new members. In four years, we have grown 30%. We hired Theresa Burgess as an Administrative Assistant and we are still swamped. The Bookkeeper has been pushed out of the office and into another “closet.” We have to accomplish our administrative tasks with more efficiency.

The Automation Task Force has examined a number of options over the last year and has selected a very sophisticated software that was created for organizations like ILR. They have had long conversations with the PROClass Company and a Long Life Learning Institute at Penn State University. The ATF has recommended a program called PROClass to automating administrative tasks: keeping the membership list, mailing lists, class registrations and wait-lists, and creating class lists. The Board has approved the changeover. The staff will set up the program to support our tasks and how we do our jobs in June. Training will be in July and August. We hope we can start using PROClass in September, the beginning of the Fall quarter. Sometime in the future, at least a year, we hope we can add features that let members who want to register online, to do so and use their credit cards.

~ Robert Chapin
The March ILR Trip to Washington DC and Mount Vernon was a treat!

Our first stop was Mount Vernon, America’s most popular historic home. The mansion, purchased by Washington in 1754, is detailed to look as it did in 1799, the year he died. Outside the mansion we visited the buildings needed to maintain the farm, such as blacksmith shop, slave quarters, gardens, living farm, historic burial grounds, and the tombs of George and Mary. And, they ran a state-of-the-art distillery!

Mid-afternoon we drove through the magnificently reverent Arlington cemetery grounds to The Arlington House. Overlooking the Potomac and Washington DC, this homestead was owned by the Robert E Lee family. During the American Civil War, the grounds of the mansion were selected as the site of Arlington National Cemetery, in part to ensure that Lee would never again return to his home. The mansion is now a National Monument as respect from both the North and the South.

The bus ride itself, winding through the cemetery inspired us with comments about passing the JFK memorial, the Viet Nam memorial, and the tombstones outlining our centuries of history.

The next morning we woke up to a dusting of snow on the trees and grass, but not to hinder any of our plans. After breakfast, we headed to the National Cathedral for a guided tour. There are 215 stained glass windows in the Washington National Cathedral. Most famous among them are the three rose windows and the "Space Window". The most complex window, the west rose, includes over 10,500 pieces of glass and prisms. Cathedral designers include contemporary themes, so we found a Darth Vader Gargoyle, and the Space Window. The Space window includes a real moon rock in the center of the red swirl design, commemorating America’s exploration of space. The cathedral provides the beauty, inspiration and relief needed for a country welcoming people of faith and people of no faith.

Our next stop was the Newseum, a journalistic archive of our news in the 17th century to today’s relative topics. The seven levels of the well-planned building gives an eyewitness to history with a collection of articles, films, cartoons, and antique written news treasures. There are fifteen theaters and galleries displaying overwhelming emotional events marking our history. This unexpectedly poignant and outstanding project tempted many of us to return another time.

The diligent planners for the trip, Bill Daley and Margie Cole, made sure we had delicious food choices, whether on the bus or at a restaurant. Our terrific bus driver and our full and interesting schedule made this trip a winner!

--- Travel Committee
Interested in History?
- Find how Jesse Owens destroyed the Nazi agenda of the 1936 Olympics.
- How did the Normandy invasion turn the war around?
- Explore the history of Cuba and the U.S.
- How the Middle East Fertile Crescent has influenced the world, and how ISIS would like to shape its future.

Medical Misunderstandings and strange medical facts.
- Who was The ‘Goat Gland Doctor’?

What is it like to live in Alaska?

Understand the union of mind-body-spirit, as the eight limbs of yoga.

Some Upcoming Events
- Wednesday, July 13, 2016 - Dinner at Leaping Lizard
- Wednesday, August 17, 2016 - Wine Tasting at Yiannis
- Friday, September 9, 2016 - Potluck at June Lam's

These are some of our upcoming classes and events in our schedule of courses. Check them out, along with so much more in the packet.