



LLI MATTERS

Learning for the Love of It

January, 2020

Volume 11 Number 2

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members;

Well another semester of classes has come to an end, and judging from the evaluations, it was a success. The Spring Semester preparations are already in process and promises a fabulous variety of choices. The committees are hard at work to ensure a smooth move into spring.



Again, thank you to all the presenters, classroom assistants, coordinators, and students. I also want to remind you all positions are voluntary and we are always in need of more volunteers. In particular, the vice-president position, a prequel to the president position, will be open in the spring. Please consider volunteering for this vital position on the council. You will not regret it. There is a great deal of support, assistance, and camaraderie involved. Plus, the satisfaction of doing your part to insure the continuance of the institution.

In the meantime, please enjoy your holidays and see you in the spring.

Sincerely,

Diane Fiscina, President

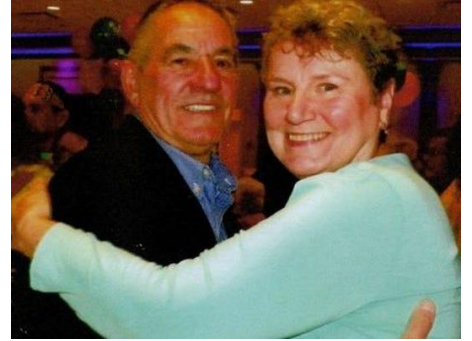
dfiscina3@hotmail.com

LLI's Outreach Program continues

On the First Tuesday in February LLI Volunteers will be at Tops and ShopRite from 10:00 to 4:00 to discuss courses available for the Spring, and to answer questions about LLI and record names and addresses for catalog requests.

Meet the Prez Diane Fiscina

Diane and her husband Joe were born and raised in Brooklyn, N.Y. They moved to the Hudson Valley in 1969 and fell in love with the area, so they stayed. They have two adult children, a son who lives in California and a daughter who lives in Poughkeepsie. Early adulthood (first life) found Diane working in office management and primarily payroll bookkeeping. She also involved herself in P.T.A., Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts. In what she identifies as her second life, at 35 years of age she went to college. So, with husband, two children, a mortgage, and a part time job she enrolled in Dutchess Community College. After graduating with honors, she kept the momentum going by entering SUNY New Paltz. She did not stop there. Diane received a Master's Degree in Social Work from SUNY Albany. Diane had a successful career working with court mandated adolescent boys. She also maintained a small private practice in Fishkill.



Throughout her career she maintained an active membership in the NASW (National Association of Social Workers). Diane was also President of the Mid-Hudson Alumni Association for about 5 years and raised much money for book scholarships. She retired completely from social work in 2011 and began taking L.L.I. classes. In her third life she enjoys learning, being active and all the new friends she has met. She also travels as often as she and Joe can handle.

“Try to learn something about everything and everything about something”

- Thomas Henry Huxley



Council Meeting in Progress

LLI Council 2019-2020

OFFICERS

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| President | Diane Fiscina: dfiscina3@hotmail.com 462-2207 |
| Vice President | Mary Hilley hilley66@gmail.com (914)552-3899 |
| Treasurer | Faith Nichols: faitnichols@msn.com 594-2351 |
| Secretary | Janet Phillips lawgal110@gmail.com (516)449-7812 |
| Immed Past President | Boyd Herforth hbherforth@gmail.com 687-6233 |
| Members at Large | Alma Sloan: roundheels4@gmail.com 255-0170 |
| | Ellen Berlin: zeeventure.woman@gmail.com 658-8606 |
| | Stefi Morrison stefimorrison@gmail.com 255-8990 |

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Curriculum Development | Marilou Abramshe: maeducator@hvc.rr.com 384-1098 |
| Catalog | Marilou Abramshe: maeducator@hvc.rr.com 384-1098 |
| Classroom Management | Marilou Abramshe: maeducator@hvc.rr.com 384-1098 |
| Classroom Assistants | Linda Lee Paquin: linda.paquin@me.com 255-4369 |
| | Helen Kane: hkane1031@gmail.com 687-7122 |
| Membership | Marny Janson: mljanson1@gmail.com 255-7950 |
| Events | Margaret Armento-McDowell: bbermac@aol.com 399-8105 |
| | Alma Sloan: roundheels4@gmail.com 255-0170 |
| | Dorothy Tyno: dorothytyno@gmail.com 255-0046 |
| Volunteers | Alice Barner: alice.barner@gmail.com (917) 414-5591 |
| Public Relations | Carole Heyl, Council Rep: cehey@cs.com 255-2839 |
| Social Media | Phyllis Sturm: sturmpny@gmail.com 691-2575 |

OTHERS

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Registrar & Admin Asst. | Jean Poirier: lifetime@hawkmail.newpaltz.edu 257-2892 |
| SUNY New Paltz Liaisons | Dr. Shala Mills, Asst VP Graduate and Extended Learning millss@newpaltz.edu 257-3287 |
| | Dylan Hurley: hurleyd@newpaltz.edu 257-3299 |
| LLI Contact info | lifetime@hawkmail.newpaltz.edu 257-2892 |

Journal Ledger for 2019/2020

Expenses Revenue

| Date | Item | Amount | |
|--------|----------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 15-Jul | Membership | | \$120.00 |
| 15-Jul | Registrar/AA | \$338.00 | |
| 15-Jul | Classroom Rental | \$950.00 | |
| 15-Jul | Classroom Rental | \$760.00 | |
| 15-Jul | Ink cartridges | \$87.00 | |
| 25-Jul | Catalog Postage | \$420.00 | |
| 25-Jul | Storage | \$101.00 | |
| 12-Aug | Membership | | \$20,075.00 |
| 11-Aug | New Computer for Registrar | \$713.00 | |
| 11-Aug | Registrar/AA | \$533.00 | |
| 11-Aug | Labels for Catalog | \$34.00 | |
| 22-Aug | Advertising | \$125.00 | |
| 22-Aug | Storage | \$101.00 | |
| 7-Sep | Postage- Fall Catalog | \$110.00 | |
| 7-Sep | Registrar/AA | \$1,620.00 | |
| 11-Sep | Supplies for PR event | \$96.00 | |
| 15-Sep | Membership | | \$2,395.00 |
| 15-Sep | Reg. Letter Consultant | \$7.00 | |
| 21-Sep | Design for Catalog | \$950.00 | |
| 24-Sep | Printing of Fall Catalog | \$1,025.00 | |
| 24-Sep | Printing for CA's | \$205.00 | |
| 24-Sep | Storage | \$115.00 | |

Journal Ledger for

2019/2020

Expenses

Revenue

| Date | Item | Amount | |
|--------|-----------------------------|------------|----------|
| 5-Oct | Mic and Podium | \$215.00 | |
| 5-Oct | Registrar/AA | \$820.00 | |
| 6-Oct | Membership | | \$360.00 |
| 6-Oct | Brunch for Speaker | \$6.00 | |
| 25-Oct | Reimburse for Travelers Ins | \$840.00 | |
| 27-Oct | Brunch for Speakers | \$8.00 | |
| 27-Oct | Membership | | \$120.00 |
| 27-Oct | Name Badges | \$80.00 | |
| 27-Oct | Printing | \$113.00 | |
| 27-Oct | Storage | \$115.00 | |
| 2-Nov | Tickets for Henry V | \$260.00 | |
| 2-Nov | Revenue | | \$240.00 |
| 2-Nov | Flyers | \$32.00 | |
| 10-Nov | Registrar/AA | \$605.00 | |
| 10-Nov | Postage | \$20.00 | |
| 15-Nov | Ad in About town | \$166.00 | |
| 20-Nov | Deyo rental | \$600.00 | |
| 20-Nov | Classroom Rental | \$1,075.00 | |

YTD Expenses

YTD Income

\$13,245.00

\$23,310.00

Limitations live only in our minds. But if we use our imaginations, our possibilities are limitless

- James Paolinetti

Presenter Profile

I was born in Istanbul to Armenian parents and was raised in Paris, France, where I earned a degree in marketing for nonprofits. It took me six years to earn that degree. I didn't find much motivation in studying marketing and economics but during those college years, I taught myself how to play the piano, starting with Eric Satie's *Gymnopedies*, and went on to performing with a cellist friend at home parties we called Schubertiades.



After college, the whole of Paris looked increasingly like a dead-end to me. I couldn't find a job and got tired of its grey sky. My girlfriend was doing an exchange program in New York City, so I used my Armenian connections to get myself a low-paying internship consisting of cataloguing an art collector's vast inventory. I also started to teach French to his wife and her circle of friends to pay the bills.

I liked living in NYC, so much that when my girlfriend had to go back to France, we broke up and I stayed behind, in the Big Apple (my sister Sheyda Eversley lived in Bayside so I knew I had a safety net). The collector who was employing me used his influence to get me hired by an Armenian charitable organization, The Armenian General Benevolent Union. In the course of six years, I developed an arts program there, presenting countless events, including Carnegie Hall debuts and theatrical productions with talented artists of Armenian descent. I also had six bicycles stolen and six relocations, all within Manhattan. And I met Maria, my wife-to-be. She worked at the Van Cliburn Foundation in Fort Worth, TX. We got married at Mohonk Mountain House. A year later, I quit my job, joined her in Texas, and soon after joined the Foundation staff as their Marketing and PR director.

During my 12-year tenure at the Cliburn, I had a son (Robert); I bought my first house; I picked up the drums and formed a rock band; I picked up the brush and started to paint and had two successful shows at one of Fort Worth's top contemporary art galleries. My art was all about paying tribute to the great artists I admired in museums. I started to give lectures on my art and on those artists.

In 2009, we left Fort Worth. My wife was offered a teaching job at SUNY Purchase. She wanted to be near her family (she is a 4th generation Smiley Family member) so we settled in High Falls, starting in a small apartment above the Post Office and above her mother's apartment. The plan was for me to develop my artist career. Then neighbor John Novi of the Depuy Canal House offered a portion of his barn for me to exhibit my work. The taste of running an exhibit space felt sweeter than painting so I became a gallerist instead of a painter and opened Wired Gallery in 2012.

Meanwhile, my sister Sheyda had moved to New Paltz to be closer to us. As curriculum chair of LLI, she invited me to give lectures on art and that started a new pursuit in my life: building a portfolio of lectures on art history and on my favorite museums. Spring 2020 will be my 3rd semester to present such lectures to LLI members.

Sevan Melikyan enjoying teaching
his enthralled students



COURSES FOR THE SPRING OF 2020

With thanks to all the presenters

| LLI Class | Presenter |
|---|---------------------------------|
| A Feminist Examination of the Bible | Deborah Moore |
| Advanced Mah-Jongg Strategies | Barbara Wyman & Ann Hanover |
| Art Blazing in Provence | Sevan Melikyan |
| Beading 101 | Helen Tennenbaum |
| Beading 102 | Helen Tennenbaum & Linda Worden |
| Birding for Lazy Birders Botany for the Non-Botanist | Paul Osgood Rick Jones |
| Chair Yoga | Susan Jacque |
| Create your own Australian Art | Ellie Anderson |
| Decisions, Decisions, Decisions- Past, Present and Future | Puja A.J. Thomson |
| Dialogues with Art | Zachary Bowman |
| Enjoying Irish Theatre | Richard Parisio |
| Fold Everything | Kathryn Paulson |
| Genealogy Alive | Alan Rothman |
| Healer Within | Helen Coyle Bergstein |
| Hiking in the Spring Forest | Rick Jones |
| Introduction to Kabala | Rena Blumenthal |
| Introduction to Tai Chi Easy | Caroline Hopenwasser |
| Language and Society | Eric Chambers |
| Learning about My Favorite Subject - WINE | Manny Sloan |
| Mathematical Modeling-Applying Math to Everyday Problems | Heather Gould |
| New Paltz West of the Wallkill | Marilou Abramshe |
| Opera as Politics IV | Chuck Mishaan |
| Science Times Discussion Group | Boyd Herforth |
| The Columbian Exchange | Joe Britto |
| The Human Right to Good, Clean and Fair Food | Richard Vergili |
| Theater and World History | Robert Miller and Tom Mounkhal |
| Twelve Rules for Life | Boyd Herforth |
| Understanding Earth's Climate System | Chris Bernabo |
| Understanding the Principles of Gardening | Frank Almquist |

Lifetime Learning Institute Scholarship



Jose Figueira

Class Level: Senior

Department: Sociology

Major: Sociology

Inspired:

The need for service to society has led me on a journey which started in South Dakota. As a religious brother, I was able to serve as a liaison, advocate, and spiritual counsel for undocumented immigrants in the Midwest region. Working in despicable conditions, they are compelled to work long hours, cheated altogether out of their paychecks, in a state reluctant to accept them.

Despite the fact immigrants face times of uncertainty and danger, I was able to affirm to them the inherent dignity bestowed by God on every human person. I felt compelled to respond to their plight, both from compassion and the call to do so. Taking care of the day to day problems of immigrants. I accompanied them to court and translated the proceedings into Spanish, helping them face considerable hurdles.

Native American Indians have a long and difficult history with alcohol. Nevertheless, working with the Dakota tribes, I was there to treat them like human beings and help realize their full potential. Their youth have the highest rates for alcohol abuse disorders of any racial group in the nation. On a weekly basis, I had the opportunity to administer spiritual counseling to the vulnerable youth facing problems with alcohol. They face a mix of poverty and ongoing oppression that contributes to alcoholism. I was fortunate enough to help in the battle against alcohol by mentoring the ones who are suffering from, affected by, and at risk of the disease of alcoholism. My relationship with those young adults provided me with the skills of a listener, an observant, and to conclusively know, accept, and respect others struggling with addiction. It was an inspiration in my life.

*Thank you
for making this
possible!*

Marilee Abramshe
Assistant Director
of Stewardship



This scholarship helps me to be engaged and stay involved in my community.

I have been blessed to serve a monastery that developed a ministry to the homeless in Newburgh, New York. All the brothers in the monastery help save and pack the weeks leftovers meals. Once a week we bring the untouched excess of food and prepare a banquet style meal in a local homeless shelter in Newburgh. This gave me the opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations that later lead to spiritual counseling. To be able to counsel during the transition points of in a person's life brought me the call of service to another level.

During my time in Newburgh, I encountered an older generation of women struggling to stay in their homes who later became homeless. They are the forgotten faces of homelessness. Helping older women endeavoring to transition out of homelessness helped me to better understand the role of faith and spirituality in these women's lives while coping with homelessness. While the stereotypical face of poverty is an older man, a growing demographic of young adults are experiencing homelessness after aging out of foster care. I was compassionate to show them my concern and willingness to support them.



Dear Donor,

My name is Jose R. Folgueira and I am honored to be the recipient of the Lifetime Learning Institute Scholarship. As this year's recipient, I am grateful for the opportunities this award will provide me. I rely on financial aid, grants and student loans to help finance my education. Receiving this scholarship is one of the greatest gifts I have been given during the pursuit of my Sociology degree.

I am a senior student at SUNY New Paltz University, with a major in Sociology and a minor in Disaster Mental Health. My plans at this stage are to complete a bachelor's degree and to attend graduate school for a Master in Social Work.

By awarding me this scholarship you have lightened my financial burden which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of school, learning. Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community, I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.

Thank you for your investment in SUNY New Paltz University and the futures of students like me.

Sincerely,

Jose R. Folgueira

A Note from Our Registrar

Hello! We are gearing up for a great Spring semester full of interesting classes for you to enjoy. I would like to take a moment to mention a few reminders and bits of information:

- If you registered and took classes in the fall, then you are paid up for the year. Please do not send payment for the spring term. We had about 10 people pay twice last spring when it was not necessary.
- Did you know classes are listed a certain way on the registration form, to make it easier to follow? This is how it works. All Wednesday classes are listed in the top half of the registration form, with 8-week classes listed first (W-8), then early spring 4-week classes (W-4-E), then late spring 4-week classes (W-4-L). Each section is in a different shade. Next, all of the Friday classes are listed. All Friday 8-week classes first (F-8), then early spring 4-week classes (F-4-E) and then the last 4-week Friday classes (F-4-L). Lastly, any classes that have a special schedule are listed last. Please keep this in mind when selecting classes and checking for any possible conflicts. Student are limited to 6 classes per session.
- Please remember to select and then prioritize your classes (enter priority number in right column), and enter a second choice if you don't get into your first choices.
- Spring Catalogs will be mailed in mid-January. Register early, as classes fill quickly.
- Tell your friends who have not yet joined LLI that for one-time-only, we will allow new members to join for the spring for a \$75 fee. They can try the program and see how they like it. Help us spread the word.
- Behind the scenes, we are moving toward automating certain processes. Soon you will be asked to complete your course evaluations online. Also, in the works is a database migration project, moving our old program into a cloud-based system. We hope to eventually include online registration in the future, but first, we will be giving our new system a road test this spring. Please bear with us as we work hard to make these improvements.

Class dates for the Spring 2020 are: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 - Friday, May 15, 2020

Take the attitude of a student, never be too big to ask questions, never know too much to learn something new

- O.G. Mandino



POSITIONS AVAILABLE

VICE PRESIDENT

As VP you serve on the Council and learn the ropes. If the President is unable to attend the monthly meeting, you preside over the meeting. The next year you assume the prestigious position of President.

Computer literate Co-Chair Classroom Assistants Comm.

Volunteers

If you would like to help the organization function optimally, consider volunteering. Some things we need help with are classroom assistants, mailings, phone-a-thons or perhaps you recognize any area which would benefit from your expertise.

ALL volunteers will be invited to the Lovely Volunteer Reception held on May 20, 2020.

Email Alice.Barner@gmail.com to find out about other volunteer opportunities.

Curriculum Committee Members

This dynamic and exciting committee develops new courses and recruits faculty.

Knowledge of Facebook administration, Word or Publisher helpful.

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD

We trust you enjoy your classes and extracurricular activities. LLI would love your friends and family as members, therefore let them know about LLI.

LLI at SUNY NP Membership/Benefits

Membership fee of \$120 entitles you to enroll in 6 classes out of a selection of over 33 courses in both the Fall and Spring semesters. You are also invited to many other LLI events, including trips and informative brunches.

The classrooms we use on Wednesdays and the technical support the presenters receive during classes are all provided free from SUNY. The SUNY administration is happy to have LLI on campus and offers the following discounts and opportunities to our students beyond our reduced-price parking tags:

Members are allowed to join the new Wellness Center on campus for a reduced fee for one semester or for the year. This gives one access to the circuit, the weight room and the dance classes. The old Elting Gym also has a swimming pool, racquetball courts and ping pong tables available.

The Department of Fine and Performing Arts gladly accepts the LLI membership card as a form of student identification. The card allows one to pay the reduced student rate for art (Dorsky Museum), theater (McKenna and Parker) and special events (Lecture Center). You can use the library but by becoming a Friend of the Library for a minimum donation of \$30, you are able to take books out of the library as well.

The various campus dining options are always available to everyone. The remodeled Wooster Hall (which is just across the concourse from Humanities and Lecture Center classes) now hosts a lovely restaurant.

You can sign up for email from the college to receive announcements of the events on campus or check out www.newpaltz.edu.

Auditing SUNY-New Paltz Classes

Persons over 60 years of age, who would like to audit a course must obtain an audit form from the Office of Records and Registration. The completed form must have the approval and signatures of the chair of the department offering the course and the course instructor. The audit form must be returned to the department offering the course by the end of the "course add period."

The audit privilege permits the auditor to attend a course, providing there is room in the course and the necessary approvals have been granted, and to do assignments, but it does not permit the auditor to take examinations in the course or to have his/her work evaluated in any other way. The auditor receives no grade for the course, nor is any record of course attendance kept in the Office of Records and Registration.

Audit privileges are not ordinarily available in studio, online, laboratory or performance courses, or courses where class participation of students is of major importance, nor are they available in credit-free courses offered by the institution or in any foreign study program or course.

Off-Campus Discounts Available

20% off art supplies at Manny's and Rhinebeck Artist Shop. \$5 student admission to Denizen Theater. student priced entry at DIA Beacon, MASSMoCA in addition to widespread theaters and museums by showing your student ID.

Free Fun & Educational Brunches



UPCOMING – The Life of Winston Churchill



Tuesday, April 7 at 9:30am at Plaza Diner (You only pay for your breakfast)

Charlie Fox will be sharing the highlights of the amazing life of Winston Churchill. Churchill was perhaps one of the greatest democratic leaders of the 20th Century.

Charlie Fox has spoken in a variety of venues across the Hudson Valley, including the Mt. St. Mary L.I.F.E. Program. Please join us for the LLI Brunch on 4/7/2020 at the Plaza Diner @ 9:30am.

Previous Brunches this academic year

Flying Solo after 60 by Pamela Hull



Saul Bellows by Professor Gerald Sorin



Old-Time Radio by Ron Gabriele



LLI MISSION STATEMENT

The Lifetime Learning Institute of New Paltz promotes diverse and enriching learning experiences for older adults, provides opportunities for social interaction, and encourages individuals to use their knowledge and skills in creative ways.

**Spring 2020 classes will run
Wednesday, March 18th through
Friday, May 15th**

**Watch your mail for the catalog
in late-January or check our website
www.newpaltz.edu/lifetime/catalog.html**



Lifetime Learning Institute
PO Box 275
New Paltz, New York 12561

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE



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