



5CLIR REPORTER

April 2007 Newsleaflet VOL. XVIV NO. 3

CALENDAR...

April 2007

Wednesday, April 4, 11:30-1:30

Viewpoints Discussion with Hy Edelstein
Highland Valley Elder Services
320 Riverside Dr, Florence

Thursday, 5 April 2:30-4:30 pm

Curriculum Committee Meeting, Amherst

Friday, April 6, 9:30 am-12:00 noon

Great Decisions: US-Mexico Relations
Union Station Restaurant, Northampton

Friday, April 6, 13, 20, 27, 2:00-4:00 pm

Inter. Bridge at Rockridge with Leo Sartori

Thursday, 12 April, 2:30-4:30 pm

Council Meeting, Amherst

Wednesday, April 18, 11:30-1:30

African World Film Series: The Holy Land
Amherst College Campus Center Theater

Thursday, April 19, 1:30-3:30

Travel Interest Group
Highland Valley Elder Services
320 Riverside Dr, Florence
Ring Philippe or Syma 549-6507

Friday, April 20, 9:30 am-12:00 noon

Great Decisions: The New Silk Road
Union Station Restaurant, Northampton

...save the dates...

April 2007 (continued)

Friday, April 20

*****DEADLINE for Fall Seminar Proposals*****

Contacts: Sheila Klem 548-7945

sfklem@comcast.net

Bobbie Reitt 584-8779 or

redits@comcast.net

Wednesday, April 25, 11:30-1:30

Geanealogy Interest Group with Jono Hanke
Jones Library, Amherst

Thursday, April 26, 1:30-4:00 pm

Film Series with Shlomit Cheyette, tba

Friday, April 27, 9:30 am-12:00 noon

Great Decisions: International Migrations
Union Station Restaurant, Northampton

May 2007

Wednesday, May 2, 11:30-1:30 pm

Viewpoints Discussion with Hy Edelstein
Highland Valley Elder Services
320 Riverside Dr, Florence

Friday, May 4, 11, 18, 25, 2:00-4:00 pm

Inter. Bridge at Rockridge with Leo Sartori

[Editor's note: I have repeated the April dates listed in the last newsletter because many LIR members discard the old issue of the newsletter and need the new calendar each month.]

Letter from the President of LIR

Due to some crossed wires I did not write my report for the March newsletter. Here is a brief update: The Council approved a one-semester “trial membership” for new members. We hope that this will attract new members who often hesitate to make a year-long commitment with full fees. A trial member would pay only \$50 for the fall semester and would have all the privileges of a regular member, except the new-member lottery priority, and they would have no vote in any membership meeting.

We were contacted by Smith College School of Social Work and by the UMass division of Continuing Education about possible areas of working together. A committee chaired by Joan Hasting will look into both options.



No word from the Osher Foundation. Instead, we may try to establish our own endowment fund without outside help.

Our membership assistance fund has been used extensively. Perhaps some of our snowbirds who are entitled to a \$50 refund might consider donating that amount to the membership assistance fund instead.

Sheila Klem has agreed to take over the history project started by Janet Gillies. Many thanks to both.

Planning for the April 14th. “Aging Creatively” conference is just about complete. We already have about 100 people registered.

Council decided to combine “Meet the Moderators” on June 10th with the annual meeting. It will take place at Smith College’s Davis Ballroom and will include refreshments. A small change in our by-laws requires at least half of our members to be present. PLEASE PLAN TO COME ON JUNE 10TH.! We plan to work on a simplified set of new by-laws during the coming fall, one that would have less stringent requirements for voting, and a set of by-laws more pertinent to our needs in general.

---Arnold Friedmann

**The deadline for the May newsletter is Monday, April 23rd!
Please send an email attachment of material you would like
to be included. Thanks...**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Travel Interest Group

The next presentation will take place at Highland Valley Elders Services (320 Riverside Drive, Florence) on April 19th from 1:30 to 3:30 P.M.: from Vladivostok and Moscow where Robert and Betty Romer took us in March, Naomi Yanis will bring us to Southeast Asia.

Naomi signed up for a trip to Thailand in December 2004, through an "accident" of circumstance. Unlike trips looked forward to for a long time, she did no researching or planning. The delight of the surprises that trip provided led to a trip two years later (with Doris McKethan) to Vietnam and Cambodia. The trips awakened an interest in the geography, history, culture, and, especially, the people of Southeast Asia. Through a series of slide presentations, you will have the chance to go with her, first from Bangkok to the ruins of Siam's first two capitals, through Northern Thailand to the Golden Triangle of the Mekong, discovering hill tribes, having a Buddhist "monk chat," riding an elephant, and cruising on many different river craft.

Then she will take you on a trip through Vietnam, from Hanoi, a night on a junk in Ha Long Bay, flights from Hanoi to Hue (visiting Hoi An, and Champa ruins); from Danang to Nha Trang (one of the "20 most beautiful bays"); and from Dalat to Saigon, with an excursion to cruise the Mekong again. Finally, on to Cambodia to breathtaking Angkor Wat, and life along Tonle Sap Lake.

Trip to Hyde Park, NY

The LIR Special Programs Committee has scheduled a trip to visit Hyde Park, NY, on Thursday, May 10th, to visit Eleanor Roosevelt's Cottage, FDR's Home, and the Library and Museum there. A minibus holding 25 people has been reserved. The price per person is \$65.00. LIR members may invite (and pay for!) one guest.

For information, and to make reservations by April 15, call Doris Holden at 253-5993, or email her at drh@external.umass.edu.

The *5CLIR Reporter* is published monthly by Five College Learning in Retirement, Room 9, Mason Hall, Smith College, MA 01063.

Amendment to 5CLIR By-Laws Proposed by Council

PROPOSED BY-LAW AMENDMENT:

The Council of Five College Learning in Retirement has proposed an amendment to the by-laws that will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 10th. The proposed amendment deals with the rules for conducting membership meetings, but does not intend to change any of our existing rules. It does provide new procedures for carrying out the rules already in place.

The three rules covered by the amendment are:

- (1) a majority of members –our current requirement – must be present to conduct business;
- (2) most items considered at the annual meeting require a simple majority vote; and
- (3) changes to the by-laws require a two-thirds affirmative vote of those present and voting.

Currently, the first two rules are already (but indirectly) required by our by-laws' general reference to *Robert's Rules of Order*. The third rule is already in our by-laws. The Council believes that by bringing all three rules together in one place, the procedures will be more transparent to all members.

In order to act on any business at the annual meeting, including the proposed amendment to the by-laws, there must be a quorum present. Therefore, we need you to attend the annual meeting, which is scheduled to follow the Meet the Moderators event on Sunday, June 10th. We have scheduled these events on the same afternoon so as to avoid having to ask members to give up two afternoons in June. As an added attraction, a reception with refreshments will follow the Annual Meeting.

The full text of the proposed amendment is set out on the next page of this newsletter. A full discussion about the amendment will precede the vote.

Anyone with questions about or issues with this proposal, please contact me or any other member of the Council.

--Arnold Friedmann, President

Geography is Destiny....The Connecticut River in 1795 and today...find out more at the Forbes Library, Coolidge Museum, Wednesday, April 11, 2007 at 7:00 P.M.

Ted Belsky, LIR member and Professor Emeritus in history from American International College, will uncover the history of the river as a driving economic and geologic force and examine the settlement and economic development along the Connecticut River from Greenfield to Enfield. He will discuss the historic role of the Connecticut River as background for considering its impact on the Pioneer Valley today. Learn how in a period of limited technology, the challenges to make the canal system a reality were overcome, and the consequences of that effort to towns in the Connecticut Valley down to the present. The evening will end with a discussion of whether the history of that period has lessons for us today.

This event is free and open to all. It is cosponsored by the Pioneer Valley Institute and the Friends of Forbes. For more information, call (413) 775-1671.

Proposed Amendment to the By-Laws of 5CLIR
**** Approved Unanimously by Council on November 9, 2006 ****
for Submission to the Members at the 2007 Annual Meeting

Article V of the existing Bylaws, now entitled "AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS," would be amended by substituting in its entirety the following new Article V:

"V. MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS.

"A. Quorum. A simple majority of 5CLIR members entitled to vote (all members other than Associate Members) shall constitute a quorum for any membership meeting, general or special. Any meeting lacking a quorum shall automatically be deemed adjourned until such date within 60 days as may be specified by the 5CLIR Officer presiding at the time.

"B. Voting Majorities. Except for amendments to these bylaws and as otherwise required by Roberts Rules of Order (see Article VI) all motions shall require a simple majority of those members present and voting to be adopted.

"C. Procedures for Bylaw Amendments.

"1. Any member of 5CLIR may submit a proposed amendment to these bylaws in writing at any regular meeting of the Council, or at a special meeting called for such purpose, provided that such submission occurs no later than 90 days prior to the membership meeting at which it is supposed to be voted on. If, but only if, such proposed amendment is approved by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of Council members present and voting, it shall be submitted to a vote at the next general meeting of the membership or at a special meeting of the membership called by the Council for such purpose.

"2. If so approved, the proposed amendment, together with such related or explanatory material as the Council deems appropriate, shall be sent to all members at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which action on it is to be taken. If the motion to so amend the bylaws, as originally proposed or as properly amended or modified at the meeting, receives the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members present and voting, it shall become part of these bylaws."

And the article following the above article shall be renumbered Article VI.

a note from the office.....

Please submit items and photographs for the next issue of the newsletter! I would like to include photographs of seminars, so do take your (digital) camera along to the next session and then email me your pictures.

I will be including short bios of new members in the issues of the newsletter to come in the hope that this will help them get acquainted with other LIR members.

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