LLI Remembers Its Veterans

Former facilitator Dick Hyde returned to LLI to celebrate Veterans Day at a special gathering on Wednesday November 11, 2015. We were honored to have four World War II/Korea veterans with us. Each was kind enough to tell us about their wartime experiences.

LLI facilitator Leonard Adreon was a veteran of both WW II and Korea where he served heroically (not his words) as a Naval corpsman with the First Marine Division. Leonard had composed a poem in memory of Marine Sergeant Jimmy based on a very sad personal experience which he read to us. Thank you, Leonard!

LLI member Ted Listerman told us his secret for ending the War in the Pacific much sooner than it did—this would have been possible, he says, if he had not been sent there! Ted saw Army service in New Guinea, the Philippines and Okinawa before going to Korea to help manage the post war chaos there and keep the Russians out of the south. Thank you, Ted!

LLI member Harvey Hieken saw Army service in the Philippines and in Japan when the fighting was over. Harvey had his own personal encounter with “Mister Regulation,” General MacArthur, in the flesh that did not turn out well, but fortunately did not result in a court martial for Harvey. Thank you, Harvey!

LLI member Ray Miller, himself a veteran of some mighty cold nights in Greenland with the Air Force, brought along a guest whose WW II experiences truly amazed everyone. Ralph Goldstricker completed 25 missions over Europe as a B-17 bombardier-navigator with the 8th Air Force. One of his missions involved a trip to Russia where his aircraft and 46 other aircraft in his group were destroyed on the ground in a German bombing raid...only one of the aircraft survived. He was able to make his way out of Russia and back to England to fight another day! Thank you, Ralph (and Ray for bringing him)!

Thanks to all the veterans who attended and especially to those who wore their uniforms!
It is hard to believe this is my last note to you as chair of the LLI Executive Committee. Time does fly when you are having fun and I have been having fun. Working with the support of past chair Nancy McKee, enjoying many hours with Katie Compton working on upcoming and ongoing LLI commitments, seeing how vice chair Don Cohn has taken hold and what a great chair he will be, relaxing under the excellent leadership of Tom Mitchell as chair of the Curriculum Committee; all of these have been great pleasures.

It was a thrill to work on the 20th Anniversary Celebration and see how effective our biannual Show-Me LLIs are. I am very much looking forward to our second Art Fair, under the capable leadership of Eliot Katz. I am sure there is more information on that important event elsewhere in this issue.

At our first Art Fair four years ago, there were about 100 entries of everything from painting to drawing to sculpture to woodwork, metalwork, macramé, weaving, quilting, knitting, photography and much more, as well as home-baked goodies by our talented LLI bakers. I’m looking forward to an even more fantastic Art Fair this spring.

We have a variety of LLI course offerings and a growing number of superb facilitators, some new and some veterans of our program. There is a great spirit of cheer in our halls and classrooms. Each of us seems armed with courage and commitment. We all do a glorious job, week in and week out.

Between terms, most of us gather strength for the next season. Others of us are working behind the scenes to make sure everything happens according to plan. We all keep signing up for classes. We all keep LLI vital.

I am honored by the respect and affection you have shown me during this brief tenure. In truth, it is I who honor you with respect and affection. It is each of us who make LLI so great. It is our willingness to lead, follow, take responsibility, offer caring and concern for each other as we pursue the learning and activity of our days that fills me with joy and hope.

I look forward to many more years of active participation at LLI and, again, I thank you for all you have given me in this two-year whirlwind of my chairmanship.

–Karen Sterbenz
Despite the fact that the elevators were out of commission for a while at the start of the winter term due to all the rain and flooding at the end of the year, we got off to a good start in January. It takes more than broken elevators to stop our students from getting to class! As one man said to me after I had apologized for his having to park on the surface lot north of the building and walk down the hill to LLI, pushing a walker, “I’d do anything to get to my class!”

The winter term is traditionally our smallest eight-week term, but we had our largest winter enrollment ever with 640 participants and 73 new members!

Peer learning is what it’s all about at LLI. Sometimes we sit and listen to a guest speaker, but always there is the give-and-take that is so cultivated at LLI. The hands go up and people have lots of good questions to ask. It is an active learning environment at LLI. This is what sets us apart from other programs and makes us “LLI.”

Our members share their knowledge with other members while learning from them at the same time. Our facilitators learn right along with the members of their study groups. Our curriculum is always evolving and changing, dependent on the creativity and engagement of our dedicated, hard-working facilitators.

Please be sure to thank your facilitators for all they do for LLI. They put in untold hours of research and preparation for their courses, and all as volunteers. Where would we be without them?

And a big thank you to…

…Everyone who has recently donated books and tapes to the “Please Take One” basket. We love to “recycle” books. How about you? Got anything to share?

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the LLI Scholarship Fund so that students who need financial help can sign up for classes. If you know someone who is not coming to LLI because of financial reasons, please tell them to talk to me.

Don’t forget…to tell your friends about the Lifelong Learning Institute. We have business cards in the office. Stop by if you would like to have some to pass out to friends. Word-of-mouth is our best advertising!

–Katie Compton
LLI Director

10th Annual
Lawrence Jasper Lecture
Thursday, March 24

Ten years ago on March 17, 2006, the inaugural Lawrence Jasper Lecture was given by Dr. Ira Kodner. In the ensuing years we have been privileged to hear from a variety of Washington University professors representing the Geology, Physics, Psychology, Biology, Earth and Planetary Science departments, as well as the Medical School.

This year we are pleased to announce that our speaker will be James Miller, the Senior Vice President for Science and Conservation at the Missouri Botanical Garden, who manages a portfolio of international research and conservation projects that all address environmental issues in a world of rapid global change.

The Lawrence Jasper Lecture series was established by Larry’s family to honor Larry, who was an active participant and a dedicated volunteer during the early formative years at LLI. Larry worked diligently to increase the membership of LLI and we like to think that he would be pleased to see the Lifelong Learning Institute thriving in its 21st year.

Larry and Kathy Jasper in 2006.
**IN MEMORIAM**

Lee Furfine  
Ruth Fedder  
Ray Redel  
Alice English  
Roger English  
Marilyn Essman  
Dorcas Case

**IN MEMORY OF:**

Patricia Barrett  
Phyllis Barrett Walsh  
Susan Busch

Eleanor Blakemore’s husband  
Rochelle Popkin

Millie Kaufman  
Gale Granteer  
Dr & Mrs Jerry Friedman

Larry Jasper  
Kathy Osborn

David Gee  
Kim, Alan, Kristin, and Allison Gibson

Jean Galvin  
Beverly Friedman  
Avery Seidel

Rudy Freedman  
Martin Gordon  
Jane & Brian Smith

Tom O’Gorman  
Ruth Donahay

Lee Furfine  
Ruby Quarterman  
Katie Compton  
Liz Zelman  
Greta Camel  
Radine & Ben Borowsky  
Norman & Bonnie Solomon  
Karen & Butch Sterbenz  
Jessica & Michael Friedlander  
Virginia Spewak

Marilyn Essman  
Karen & Butch Sterbenz

Ray Redel  
Myra Rosenthal  
Alan Raymond

**IN HONOR OF:**

Speedy recovery of Esther Smoller  
Fran Gould

Speedy recovery of Tom Cradock  
Fran Gould  
Rochelle Popkin

Irene Cortinovis’s birthday  
Jane Miller  
Stanley & Dale Wald

Katie Compton & Kathy Piry  
Terry Hieken

Kathy Piry  
Libby Sorkin Routman

**ENDOWMENT FUND**

Gale Granteer  
Maurice J. Lonsway  
Edna Rosenheim  
Jan and Art Morey  
Anonymous  
Bob & Judy Little

**GENERAL FUND**

Jane Miller  
Allen Sherman  
Kathy Osborn  
Edith Tashma  
Donald G. Sessions  
James P. Hyland  
Susan Busch  
Robert Drummond  
Elizabeth Chopin  
Geraldine Schiller  
Alan Travis  
Marilyn Alton  
Anne Hetlage  
Bill Cooper  
Beverly Price  
John Rava  
Susan & Robert Levin  
Emmanuel & Marian Paxhia  
Dolores Friesen  
Rita Warren  
Francis & Peggy Oates  
Ben & Radine Borowsky  
James Schiele  
Eleanor Blakemore
Lee Furfine (1924-2015)

Among the blessings of LLI are the friendships you create with folks you might never have crossed paths with otherwise. My best blessing has been Lee Furfine. We met in a European history class facilitated by David Gee that was actually held on the Danforth Campus before we got our own facility in 2002. We were bussed there and back from the west campus parking lot. The Furfines sat close to us in that class. We soon began with lunches with our husbands at the Whittemore House. Not long after, just the “girls” began having regular lunch outings. We’d talk for hours and then were surprised by the time that had flown by.

We soon discovered that Allen and Lee shared the same wedding anniversary date as Bob and I. Now we had all the more reason to socialize and celebrate often with Lee’s mouth watering lemon meringue pie.

As Lee’s mobility gradually lessened, I’d often spend Saturday afternoons at her home for a “gab fest.” I can’t begin to tell you how many people I told (family and friends with no connection to LLI) that Lee was my “happy fix.” I’d leave home out of sorts and head to Olivette. After several hours with Lee, I’d leave with an awareness of how much life can be beautiful.

Lee was my friend and confidant. With Lee I felt safe and comforted. She never wasted one precious moment of our time together complaining about or criticizing anything or anyone. She may not be here with us physically, but she is with me spiritually as my role model.

–Diane Newett
Who Can It Be?

Looking at the picture to the right, you might never guess this member of LLI went antelope hunting while still a young teenager, along with her father and other relatives. Indeed, she’s traveled to exotic spots and had adventures, which she willingly shares in the classes she facilitates. She has been here at LLI since its inception, co-facilitating with such luminaries as David Gee and Sue Wohl.

This member was never idle from the start of her student years, which began (as St. Louians always ask) at Clayton High School though she ended her senior year in the first class to graduate from Horton Watkins in Ladue. Her parents believed that breaks from the cold St. Louis weather to warm Florida weather were good stimulants for students. Evidently they were right, for the assignments of the missing weeks would be finished in the first week spent at the Everglades Hotel in Miami, leaving our young future LLI facilitator time to soak up the vitamin D without skipping a beat in the year’s curriculum.

Her college days were punctuated by travel in Europe during the summer of her junior year. She had chosen Sociology for a major because it encompassed so many of her interests—history, astronomy, art history—plus it gave her time to add swimming which she loved into her curriculum. She remembers getting an A+ in that subject, despite her races from the field house to Brown Hall where she’d arrive with icicle-laden hair. She simply loved that activity.

After graduation from Washington University, our young scholar took an around-the-world tour with other students. They encountered many different cultures as they experienced places such as Jerusalem when it was part of Jordan, Ceylon, Beirut, and Cairo (even daring to peek into Tut’s tomb). Additionally, she was fortunate to experience an entire month in India. With travel such an important part of her education, it was a natural path that she would follow college to work in the travel industry. She began at Kirkland Travel and after two years decided that she would start her own agency that she ran while raising her three young children, who were all in diapers at the same time! Despite the fact that sleep was at a premium during those days, she managed to do well, doing the bookkeeping at night while her children slept. She had success with this venture, so when the children went off to school, she decided to go into real estate investment, which she did for 20 years. She did work for AARP later and also volunteered her time helping seniors with income tax preparation, which endeared her greatly to many folks at the Covenant House. When they saw her coming they cheered, knowing tax refunds would come in her wake!

After our heroine retired, she didn’t really retire, as most Lifelong Learners know. She just began another phase of activity – facilitating courses. She has been one of the most active, in-demand facilitators right from the very beginning of LLI. Can you guess who this very active person is?

–Dolores Friesen

(The identity of our mystery person is revealed on Page 8.)
Eliot Katz, Julien Worland, Sally Kopman, and JC Hoener comprise the committee planning the 2016 Art Fair.

**Save the Date!**

**Spring Art Fair**

**Friday, May 6, 2016**

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

We’re doing it again! Many of you will remember the first art fair in 2012 and how enjoyable it was for all. Please mark your calendar now and plan to attend our second art fair on Friday, May 6, 2016. Bring friends and family along, too!

If you have your own creation, in any medium—crafts, paintings, sculpture, photographs, ceramics, needlework, etc.—we encourage you to submit one work of art for display at the fair. Here is your chance to broaden the pleasure you received from creating your work by sharing with your fellow LLI members.

Baked goods also will be available at no charge at the fair and, if you like to bake, you are welcome to bring in your favorite baked dessert as well.

Please see the two inserts in this mailing for further information, including a form to complete in order to submit artwork and/or baked goods for the fair. The deadline for turning in a submission form is **April 1, 2016**.

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**Don’t Miss**

the LLI Writers Showcase

at

**The Gatesworth**

One McKnight Place

**Friday, April 29**

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Representatives from each of the LLI writing classes will read their poems, essays and fiction at this annual event. Refreshments will be served at a reception following the readings.

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**The next**

**Show Me LLI event will be held on**

**Friday, May 20**

at 2:00 p.m.

Start thinking now about who you can invite! This get-to-know-us event is a great way to show your friends what LLI is all about.

Eliot Katz, Julien Worland, Sally Kopman, and JC Hoener comprise the committee planning the 2016 Art Fair.
Bob Streett and Sheldon Enger celebrate Veterans Day in uniform.

Carl Sherman speaks about his work gathering veterans' stories.

Sally Kopman, guest author Elsa Hart, Louise Lonsbury, and Silvia Madeo in the Detective Fiction class.

Irene Cortinovis with Antoinette and Carl Carlie in their lovely art-filled apartment at The Gatesworth, where they hosted Anna Amelung’s “Paul Durand-Ruel, Impressionist Art Dealer” class.

Ken Beck, Jean Beck and Ann Rynearson enjoy the art in Carl Carlie’s apartment.

Charles Schneider and Cathy Riedesel at the Veterans Day reception.

Arnie Kaplan greets guest speaker David Bisno, M.D., who spoke about Nine Remarkable Men in Budapest before WWII.

Carl Sherman speaks about his work gathering veterans’ stories.

Answer to Who Can It Be: Jane Elswick