

June LLI Forum

Wednesday, June 6, 2012, at 10 a.m.
(Social Time at 9:30 a.m.)

*The Role of the Annandale Campus of
 NVCC In Support of the
 Senior Community and LLI*

Dr. Barbara Saperstone, Provost of the Annandale
 Campus of Northern Virginia Community College,
 will Address Current College Issues and Answer
 Your Questions

NOVA's Annandale Campus is a major part of the
 success of our Lifetime Learning Institute. It has a
 mission to reach out to the entire community,
 including seniors/retirees. What has NOVA/
 Annandale done well, what can it do better, and
 what are some of the plans for the future? How does
 LLI interact with the college faculty? The Provost
 shares some of her insights and observations.

Dr. Saperstone holds BS and MS degrees in Physical
 Education and received her Doctorate of Arts from
 George Mason University. She has been at the
 Annandale Campus of Northern Virginia
 Community College for 32 years, beginning as an
 adjunct (part-time) faculty member in Physical
 Education. In addition to teaching, she served as
 Assistant Chair of Physical Education, Dean of the
 Liberal Arts Division, and, currently, Provost of the
 Annandale Campus.

As part of our interface with the college, the Forum
 program will include presenting the scholarship
 winners and hearing from these outstanding students.
 We will also from hear Dr. Bruce Mann, who has
 worked closely with us on the scholarship program.

Additionally, we will hold our annual business
 meeting in which we present the budget for next
 year and elect the new board members and officers.

Please bring your questions for Dr. Saperstone to
 address during this informative session and plan to
 stay to participate in LLI's annual business meeting.

Please Note: *Parking is in parking garage (\$1/hour).
 Parking in B and C lots is by permit only. If no garage
 parking slots are available, a \$6 daily permit for the B lot is
 available at the office to the right just inside the entry gate.*

LLI Picnic



Tuesday, June 19
Fort Hunt Park

See

Directions & More

on page 8



Lunch Bunch

John Bogart bogartje@cox.net

Reservations for lunch after the **June 6** Forum
 have been made at the **Firefox Restaurant**,
 6550 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria, VA,
 phone (703) 914-9280.

Directions from NOVA: Proceed on Rt. 236,
 east through Annandale, to shopping center
across the street from the Home Depot on Rt.
 236. Turn left onto Braddock Road, then right
 into the shopping center just past Starbucks.
 Foxfire is in the back row of the shopping center
 stores at the end near Braddock Road.

Calendar of Events



June 2012

- 6 Forum
- 8 LLI Board meeting
- 15 Baltimore Tall Ships day trip
- 19 LLI picnic

July 2012

- 13 Board Retreat
- No Forum / Board meeting

August 2012

- 3 September newsletter deadline
- 13 September newsletter mailing
- No Forum / Board meeting

September 2012

- 5 Forum
- 7 October newsletter deadline
- 14 Board meeting
- 17 October newsletter mailing

October 2012

- 3 Forum
- 12 Board meeting
- 12 November newsletter deadline
- 22 November newsletter mailing



IMPORTANT: Report Address / E-Mail / Phone Number Changes

Laura Charron, Administrator

To be assured of receiving important notices concerning classes and trips, **please remember** to notify the LLI office as soon as possible of a new e-mail address as well as a change in mailing address and/or telephone number. Notify the office by phone at (703) 503-0600, or e-mail at llinova@juno.com.

LLI Board of Directors

President: Paul Hople	Members: Louise Blakely 14 *,
Vice President: Ed McKnight	George Chalou 12, Arlene
Secretary: Arlene Gribben	Gribben 13, Pat Harrison 14,
Treasurer: Phil Runge	Charles Hulick 12, Bob Huley 13,
	Norma Hughes 12, Merry Macke
	13, Marianne Moerman 13, Moe
	Moser 14, Peter Schwarzkopf 13

* year term ends

Administrator: Laura Charron

Newsletter Staff

Newsletter Editor: Lynda Brittain 703-425-8240 brittains@cox.net
Assistant Editor: Bev Portman, 703-560-6740 firse@juno.com
Graphic Design/Desktop Publisher: Alfred Brothers
Mailing Coordinators: Bob and Merry Huley

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Members

Louise Blakely 703-451-2084
blakelylk@yahoo.com

Welcome, New Members! We hope you will participate in our classes and volunteer your time and talent.

New Members

Ann Meekins, 5674 Ravenel Lane, Springfield VA 22151, (703) 321-8062, annjome@aol.com

Roy Werner, 8133 Greeley Blvd., Springfield, VA 22152, (703) 674-7586, werners20121@verizon.net

Updates

Nelva Berend, Unit #338, Sunrise at Fair Oaks, 3750 Joseph Siewick Dr., Fairfax, VA 22033, cell: (703) 573-4533

Carolyn Chapin Blackwood, 3440 S. Jefferson St. #1109, Falls Church, VA 22041-3130, (703) 578-7629

Mary Ann Craft, macraft827@verizon.net

Lois Czapiewski, 3440 S. Jefferson St., #810 Crossroads, Falls Church, VA 22041

Melissa Harrell Jackson, 5702 Cedar Mountain Ct., Fredericksburg, VA 22407

Sally & Don Reynolds, 7450 Spring Village Drive, Apt. 520, Springfield, VA 22150, (703) 866-3017

Charlotte Wink, (703) 569-7211



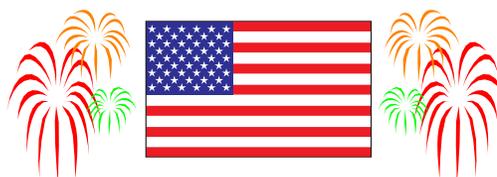
Volunteer Opportunities

LLI still needs volunteers to supervise plans for the LLI Picnic scheduled for June 19. Please contact Bonnie Hople at (703) 978-9381 or pbhople@cox.net if you are interested. And, as mentioned elsewhere, there is a critical need for Holiday Party volunteers.

Volunteer Coordinator/Publicity: Merry Macke, 703-451-3248, merry.macke@verizon.net

Forum Greeter Coordinator: Colletta Hammond, 703-866-6159, mchammondh@aol.com

Speaker Forum Committee: Joseph Pincus, 703-569-0973, joseph@pincus.org



President's Message

We are looking forward to the June Forum in which we strengthen our ties to the LLI membership and to the Northern Virginia Community College. I encourage ALL members to attend, as I feel it is important to have maximum attendance for both of these important aspects of LLI. A great deal of activity goes on behind the scenes to develop and operate our Lifetime Learning Institute and this is a good way for you to show your interest and appreciation.

We have a significant partnership with the school. At our June meeting, we will be hearing from the scholarship recipients; some of the faculty; and, for the first time, the Provost of the Annandale Campus, Dr. Barbara Saperstone. The scholarships are an important part of our external support to the community and it is great to hear from these talented and capable young people. And without the support of the faculty and administrators of the Annandale Campus of NOVA, our program could not exist.

In addition we will be presenting the operating budget for next year. We have an interesting financial situation in that the membership dues (which have not been increased in five years) are no longer sufficient to cover our expenses. However, we have also built up a significant reserve, which we will draw on for the next couple of years to avoid a dues increase. This is the item noted "Retained Operating Funds" under Income on the **Budget for Fiscal Year 2013**, which was part of the May newsletter. You may wish to bring your copy of the budget to refer to during the meeting.

As we wind down for the summer, we look forward to the transition to the new board and officers. It has been my privilege to serve as president for the last three years and it is time to turn over the reins. I am pleased with the progress LLI has made.

Paul Hopler

Trip Committee News — Preview of September Day Trip

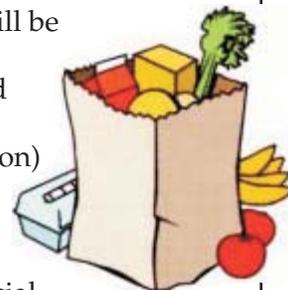
Tour Brookside Gardens in Wheaton, followed by Wings of Fancy, a live butterfly display. Lunch is in Rockville at Mykonos, a Greek restaurant. Later, head to Strathmore for a tour of the Music Center and Mansion.

Look for further information in June online and at the Forum.

Community Outreach

Betty Lee Thatcher 703-354-8154
Carol Weber, caroljeanweber@hotmail.com

Our June food collection, the last collection until the September Forum, will be donated to the ACCA Food Pantry. In addition to the Food Pantry, ACCA (Annandale Christian Community for Action) operates several other programs for low-income families, including furniture distribution, emergency financial assistance for families in crisis, transportation to medical appointments for elderly and disabled, and a developmental day care center. Volunteers run all programs except for the Child Development Center. Twenty-six churches in the Annandale/Bailey's Crossroads area collaborate to operate ACCA, which is now in its 45th year. In addition to the member churches, food is donated by various community organizations, such as local schools and the Boy Scouts. Although any non-perishable food is welcome, there is a special need this month for **spaghetti sauce, jelly, and cereal**. Betty Lee Thatcher or Carol Weber will deliver this food collection to ACCA.



Thanks to our members for making the May food collection one of the best we have had in a number of years. With four overflowing carts of food and other supplies, we had to call on a number of volunteers to help us get the food outside for pick-up. The Annandale Food Assistance Site at Immanuel United Methodist Church was very grateful for this donation. Thank you for your continuing generosity; your monthly donations to our outreach programs benefit many low-income families in Northern Virginia.

Reminder

Our monthly newsletter is generally available on the LLI website earlier than you will receive it through the mail. In light of recent extended delivery delays by the Postal Service, you may want to keep <http://lli.nova.org> in mind. Any pictures and/or graphics will also be in color on the website.

Special Interest Groups

PLEASE NOTE: Because no newsletter is published during the summer months, this issue contains information for the Special Interest Groups for July and August, as well as for June. If you are interested in any of these activities, please retain this copy for future reference.



LLI Arts & Smarts

Donna Trogler, 703-751-8932
dtrogler@aol.com

1:00 p.m.

Location: Freer & Sackler Art Galleries; meet inside the Freer Gallery by the Information Desk.

“Hokusai”: *Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji* “by **Katsushika Hokusai** and *”Masters of Mercy: Buddha’s Amazing Disciples”* by **Kano Kazunobu**. Both of these exhibitions are in the Sackler Gallery. First, however, we will meet at the Freer Gallery to begin our docent-led tour by taking a quick look at two Hokusai paintings/drawings there before proceeding to the Sackler for these exhibitions.

The Hokusai exhibition, a series of renowned prints by Japan’s most famous artist, includes “Beneath the Wave off Kanagawa,” better known as “The Great Wave at Kanagawa.” There are also some rare early printings. The Kano paintings reflect a popular theme in Edo art — the lives and deeds of Buddha’s legendary disciples — and features selections from the artist’s 100 painting series created for the Pure Land Buddhist Temple, Zojoi.

This is a rare opportunity for us to see the work of these two artists together at one time. Due to time constraints, our tour will be an overview and an invitation for further individual research and learning.

Nothing is currently planned for July or August.

Sept. 2012: *“Slavery at Jefferson’s Monticello”* at the Smithsonian Museum of American History. *Paradox of Liberty* — Using objects from museum collections and archaeological excavations, this landmark exhibition examines slavery through the lens of Jefferson’s plantation and the experiences of six families living at Monticello. This exhibit may be of particular interest to members who sign up for the October trip to Charlottesville that will be announced in the near future. **Watch for details!**



LLI Bridge Group

Bob or Merry Huley, 703-534-4819 or
703-489-9045, roberthuley@cox.net

Time: 10:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.

Location: Mason District Governmental Center

June Play Dates: **Wednesday, June 20**, and **Thursday, June 28**. (Note the unusual June dates due to travel conflict.)

July Play Dates: **Wednesday, July 11**, and **Wednesday, July 25**

August Play Dates: **Thursday, August 9**, and **Wednesday, August 22**

Bring a bag lunch. You do not need a partner because we rotate partners so you will play with everyone. We are always looking for new players, and all levels of players are welcome in this very friendly game. Please call or email me if you would like to attend (or for more information) so that we can provide sufficient card tables.

Recent Results — The top four players at the game on April 18 were: **Jessica Burmester, Nate Rosenbaum, Carole Compton, and Jack Acey**. Congratulations to all.



LLI Community Theater

Norma Hughes, 703-569-0232
nahhome@verizon.net

All who have signed up for the Community Theater Group should have a listing of theater offerings for the current season. Members have an opportunity to select and host a theater date and possible after-theater socializing at a nearby restaurant. If you are interested in joining the group, send your name and email address to Norma Hughes at nahhome@verizon.net.



LLI Current Events Group

Marion Jacknow, 703-698-8702
mjacknow@aol.com

Date/Time: **Fridays, June 1, July 6, August 3**, 10:00 — 11:30 a.m.

Location: Small Conference Room, Mason District Governmental Center

The Current Events Group meets monthly for continued interesting and educational discussions. Topics reflect the current social, political and worldly



events surrounding the time of the meeting. Please join us to share your ideas and/or learn more about current events — whatever is your pleasure. For more information, please contact Marian Jacknow.



LLI Favorite Books Club

Connie Fullerton, 703-764-3779
constance.fullerton@gmail.com

Date/Time: Thursday, June 21,
11:30 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.

Location: Braddock District Governmental Center (King's Park Library building)

The June meeting will not follow our usual model. Instead, members will offer brief summaries and recommendations of other books they have read — thus, creating a list of summer vacation reads for all of us. Favorite Books will not meet in July or August.



LLI Financial Discussion Group

Doug Johnson, 703-628-3115
llinovadoug@gmail.com

Dates/Time: Fridays, June

8, July 13, August 10, 1:30 p.m.

Location: Braddock District Governmental Center (King's Park Library building)

All are welcome as this is a wide-ranging topic, no holds barred, discussion group. Bring your questions (and maybe some answers). See you then and there. For more information, contact Doug Johnson.



LLI French Conversation Group

Sally Reynolds, 703-866-3017
saldonreyn@aol.com

Date/Time: Wednesday, June 20, 10:00 a.m. — noon

Location: Media Room, Goodwin House (Bailey's Crossroads)

Under the guidance of our teacher, Al Brothers, we will review Lecon 8 in the *French in Action* program. Members wishing to join should contact Sally Reynolds.

The French Conversation Group **will not meet in July or August.**

Deadline for the September newsletter is Friday, August 3, 2012.



LLI Gourmands

Mary Underwood, 703-329-8391
maryunderwood29@verizon.net

The Gourmands will meet throughout the summer as indicated in the events listed below:

June Event: Gloria Rothman has planned the June Gourmand lunch at **Haandi**, a Zagat-rated Indian restaurant, at 1222 West Broad Street, Falls Church, on **Thursday, June 28, at 12:30 p.m.** Reservations are **limited to 12 people.** The buffet lunch is \$10.95 plus beverage, tax, & tip. The restaurant's phone number is (703) 533-3501 and their web address is www.haandi.com. Haandi is located in a small shopping center, so allow time to find a parking space. If you would like to attend, please notify Gloria by Tuesday, June 12, at 703-256-0853 or grothman1@cox.net.

July Event: **L'Auberge Chez François Country Inn**, 332 Springdale Road, Great Falls, VA, on **Thursday, July 12, at noon.** We will honor Bastille Day a couple of days early; this French national holiday commemorates the storming of the Bastille in 1789, which began the French Revolution. A prix fixe menu that includes choice of appetizer, entre, dessert, coffee or tea, and a complimentary glass of wine is available for \$38.00 (plus tax and tip) or you may select from the regular luncheon menu. The restaurant's phone number is (703) 759-3800 and the web address is www.laubergechezfrancois.com. If you wish to attend, please contact Virginia Fernbach at 703-751-8369 or lvfern@aol.com. Please give your full name and e-mail address when you call.

August Event: **Ice House Café**, 760 Elden Street, Herndon, VA on **Thursday, August 16, at noon.** The phone number is (703) 471-4256. Parking is located behind the restaurant. Additional information can be found at www.icehousecafe.com. Please contact Beverly Harris at 703-437-5140 or beverh@verizon.net if you wish to attend.



LLI Nimble Fingers

Bev Portman, 703-560-6740
firse@juno.com

Date/Time: Wednesday, June 13, 10:00 a.m. — noon

Wednesday, July 11, 10:00 a.m. — noon

Wednesday, August 15, 10:00 a.m. — noon (**NOTE CHANGE FROM REGULAR SCHEDULE**)

Location: Small Conference Room, Mason District Governmental Center

This group meets monthly to enjoy and share all types of needlecrafts. Please bring a small project of any type to work on. New members are always

welcome. As noted above, we will continue to meet throughout the summer months. For more information, contact Bev Portman.



LLI Photography Group

Buck Myers, 703-532-3726
hbm@hbmphoto.com

There will be no meeting in June.

Dates/Time: Fridays, July 20 & August 17, 10:00 a.m. – noon

Location: Braddock District Governmental Center (King's Park Library building)

Members have a wide range of photographic abilities and interests and share a common desire to hone existing skills or learn new ones. Meetings center on a specific topic, area of interest or theme decided by the group, and new members are always welcome. For further information, contact Buck Myers.



LLI Walkabouts

Merry Macke, 703-451-3248, cell phone: 978-505-9506, merry.macke@verizon.net

Date/Time: First and third Fridays at noon (**IN MAY AND JUNE ONLY**)

Friday, May 18 — Burke Lake From Braddock Rd, take Burke Lake Rd, south. Turn left on Rte. 123, and then after the golf course, take a left into the park and continue on the road left to the parking lot, closest to the lake. Meet where the boats are launched.

Friday, June 8 — George Mason District Park

Friday, June 22 — Lake Mercer by South Run

Date/Time: Second and fourth Fridays at noon, except at noted below. (**JULY AND AUGUST ONLY**)

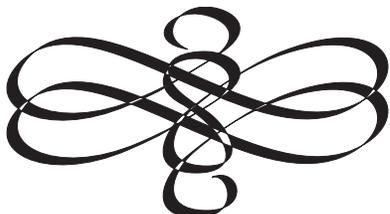
Friday, July 20 — Walk around Lake Braddock (changed from regular schedule due to LLI Board Retreat)

Friday, July 27 — Fairview Park

Friday, August 10 — Eakin Community Park

Friday, August 17 — Occoquan Park (NOTE this is the 3rd Friday of the month.)

Please contact Merry Macke for more information. Regulars will be informed by e-mail.

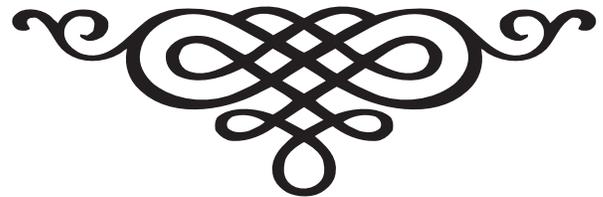


From the LLI Scrapbook

At the May Forum

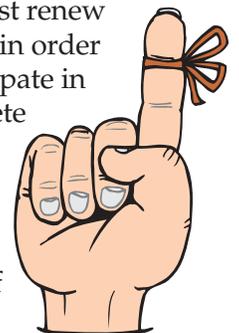


LLI Vice President Ed McKnight thanks Dr. Matthew J. McMahon, Senior Advisor for Translational Research at the National Eye Institute, National Institutes of Health, for his informative presentation at the May Forum.



Membership Renewal Reminder

The mailing label on each newsletter includes your membership renewal date. You must renew and be a member in good standing in order to register for courses and to participate in LLI's many other activities. Complete the membership form (last page in the current course catalog), check "renewal," indicate any new information, and mail it to the LLI office with a check in the amount of \$110 for each person wishing to continue membership with LLI. Please print clearly to help ensure that your information is entered correctly. **It is important to include the form with your check, for ease in crediting your membership renewal in our database.**



2012 LLI Scholarship Winners



THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE is pleased and privileged to introduce the winners of this year's LLI scholarships. As in the past, the committee was impressed with the achievements of these fine young people whose further studies are facilitated by our members' generous donations.

Leadership Scholarships

Ayman Nahra is awarded LLI's prestigious Knox Singleton Leadership Scholarship of \$2,000, which will help him reach his goal of becoming a medical doctor. Ayman volunteers on-campus in tutoring, fund-raising and leading many activities. Off-campus, he volunteers at INOVA Hospital and plays flute and piano at community events. In spite of these many activities and working 20 hours a week, Ayman has admirably maintained a 4.0 GPA.

Ha Le is awarded a \$1,000 Leadership Scholarship. Ha has been studying Computer Science at NOVA to become a software engineer. She was honored to be selected as a student ambassador for NOVA, representing the school within the community and state. She is also a campus leader and participant in many events, including helping students with social and academic concerns, and tutoring in the Math Laboratory.

Jae Seon Shim is awarded a \$1,000 Leadership Scholarship. Jae Seon has earned a 3.8 GPA and works in NOVA's International Student Office, where he provides guidance and assistance to other foreign students. He volunteers at a hospital helping pediatric patients, and offers his time at his church where he helps members improve their English skills. Jae Seon plans to continue his education with a degree in pharmacy.

Academic Scholarships

Tara Burke is awarded a \$2,000 Academic Scholarship. Tara is studying Russian/Eurasian languages with the hope of working for either the State Department or Central Intelligence Agency. An outstanding student and effective communicator, Tara has been able to achieve a 3.8 GPA while working and being a single mother of four children. After leaving NOVA, she plans to continue with a Liberal Arts degree at George Mason University.

Claire Meyers is awarded a \$1,000 Academic Scholarship. Claire has achieved a 3.8 GPA while working 20-plus hours a week and taking a full load of courses. From her current status as a student in NOVA's Nursing Program, Claire will continue at George Mason University to earn a B.S. in nursing in order to become a Nurse Practitioner. Eventually she would like to attend medical school.

Joo Yung Lee is awarded a \$1,000 Academic Scholarship. She currently majors in Science with a GPA of 3.8. Joo has been accepted at the University of Virginia starting in Fall 2012. There she plans to double major in psychology and global development studies with a concentration on public health. Her goal is not only to become a doctor, but also to share her medical skills in under-privileged areas.



Volunteers Needed — Please Help

Volunteers Needed for the Holiday Party

LLI still needs volunteers to supervise plans for the Holiday party scheduled for December. Much of the promotion has already been completed. Colletta Hammond and other past coordinators are available to assist in this endeavor. Contact Merry Macke, 703-451-3248 or merrymacke@verizon.net, if you are interested or have any other questions regarding volunteering.

Volunteers Needed for the LLI Trip Committee

Volunteers are needed to provide administrative assistance to the **LLI Trip Committee**. Assistance will be sporadic and on an as-needed basis several times a year in areas such as: writing trip announcements; helping with a "telephone tree" to contact trip participants; trip-related research; taking notes at Trip Committee meetings; etc. We would greatly appreciate your willingness to provide a bit of your time. The more hands the less work! Please contact Martie Klee at martthaklee@verizon.net or 703-644-4931 if you can spare some time. Thanks!!

LLI's Annual Picnic

Tuesday, June 19
Fort Hunt Park, Pavilion A

Directions and More

From the Beltway: Driving the Beltway outer loop to Alexandria — take Exit 177A-B, Alexandria/Fort Belvoir (the exit immediately after Telegraph Road). Stay to your left on the exit ramp toward Old Town/Alexandria. At the traffic signal, go right onto Franklin Street. Follow Franklin Street to the next traffic signal at South Washington Street. Go right (south) onto South Washington Street, which becomes the George Washington Parkway, and follow the Parkway south for 5 miles; exit to the right at the sign marked "FORT HUNT ROAD/FORT HUNT PARK."

From Ft. Belvoir: Go North on Route 1 (Richmond Highway) and turn right onto Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway (across from the entrance to Woodlawn Plantation). When you get to Mt. Vernon, go around the circle onto the George Washington Parkway North. Approximately 3 miles from the circle follow the right exit to Ft. Hunt. At the second stop sign turn left toward the Park.

Parking: Look for Area A (Pavilion) parking lot (the first one you will see). There's parking for 150 cars and easy ground level pedestrian access from the parking lot to the Pavilion. There is handicapped parking up close to the Pavilion.

General Information: Because we have the use of the large roof-covered Pavilion, the picnic will be held rain or shine. If the weather forecast is for hot and humid conditions, consider bringing insect repellent, but we have found in past years that there is generally a good breeze which helps keep the temperature down, especially in the pavilion. We will be eating at park picnic tables with bench seats.

Happy July 4th



Special Recognition and Appreciation for Solomon Tekola

Did you notice the gentleman running down the aisle to adjust the microphone at a recent Forum? Or the same man who substituted an older audio-visual machine when the presenter's material required a change of equipment?

LLI members who are responsible for programs in the Ernst Cultural Center building know Solomon



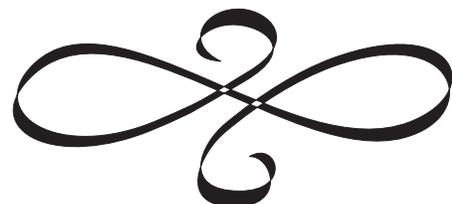
Solomon Tekola

Tekola well. He is the college employee who not only ensures the audio equipment is functioning properly, but also sees that the seating arrangement is adequate for 160 LLI members. Since many events in the

cultural center have differing requirements, Solomon faces the constant challenge of setting up and rearranging with only minimal time between the various activities.

Phil Myers, LLI's current logistics chair, states that "the tables, chairs, and podium are all set up when I arrive, usually about 8:30 a.m. He always asks me if the arrangement is ok. If there are any changes, including last-minute issues, such as a meeting in one of the Forum rooms after the regular meeting, he always makes the necessary arrangements. He never complains, and always follows any changes to the master floor plan."

Solomon, a native of Ethiopia, has lived in the United States for 30 years and has been employed at NOVA for 24 years. No matter what situation is encountered, Solomon has always been the "go-to" guy who solves all problems with a cheerful smile. As our Forum year draws to a close, we all owe him a big **THANK YOU** for a job well done.



A Special Poem

July 2012 begins the 13th year of meetings for the LLI Poetry Group under the leadership of Richard Risk. One member of this enthusiastic group, Betty Lee Thatcher, was recently inspired while she was waiting at the Department of Motor Vehicles. We're sure you've all been there and will enjoy her observations.

DMV

Every color, every race
The people sit in rows, singly, with children,
chatting with companions
Tall people — fat — skinny — short
Pale people — dark — swarthy — restless —
tired — confused
People with short hair, long braids, tight curls,
unruly and carefully combed —
White hair, gray, black, blond, red
Young people, old, middle aged, holding babies,
restless children
Languages telling of another land and culture —
confusing unknown sounds
Who are they?
Where do they come from?
Do I sit next to a poet? a musician? a cab driver?
a Medal of Honor winner? a housewife?
Are they loving parents? caring friends?
compassionate nurses? the town drunk?
the local pastor?
And so we sit and wait our turn. Numbers are
called, people get up and move away.
And so the DMV reflects who America is — the
amazing diversity, the coming together of the
world's people — the weaknesses, the strengths,
the noble, the downtrodden
God's people — Americans!

Betty Lee Thatcher

In Memoriam



Joel Cannon recently passed away following a long battle with emphysema.

Bob Thiem, husband of long time LLI member Genevieve Thiem, passed away in February 2012, following a lengthy illness.

The History of Aprons

I don't think our kids know what an apron is. The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, because she only had a few. It was easier to wash aprons than dresses and they used less material.

But along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven. It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion, was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.



From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids.

And when the weather was cold, Grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove.

Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron; from the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas were hulled, it carried out the hulls.

In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men folks knew it was time to come in from the fields for dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that "old-time apron" that served so many purposes.

Remember Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool. Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw. They would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron. I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron.

Author unknown

Established 1996



Lifetime Learning Institute of Northern Virginia
c/o NOVA Continuing Education
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Annandale, Virginia 22003
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