

5CLIR

REPORTER



May 2010 Volume XXIII, Number 5

May CALENDAR

Most of our special programs and interest groups will meet again in September when the fall semester starts...Viewpoints and French Conversation carry on throughout the year, as do Council and the Curriculum Committee (note: there is no Curriculum Committee meeting in May). There is one Summer Program in May.

MAY

Thurs 6 - Viewpoints with Hy Edelstein, 12:30–2:00 p.m. Highland Valley Elder Services, 320 Riverside Drive, Florence. **Contact:** Hy Edelstein @ 584-3060

Fri 7, 14, 21, 28 - French Conversation with Judith Pool, 1:30–3:30 p.m. Highland Valley Elder Services, 320 Riverside Drive, Florence **Contact:** Judith Pool @ 586-2190 (*No openings at present*)

Thurs 13 - Council meeting, 1:30–3:30 p.m. Five Colleges HQ, 97 Spring St, Amherst

Fri 14 - Close of registration for lottery of fall seminars. You may register after this date, but you will not be included in any lottery that may be necessary for your first choice seminar.

Sat 15 - Deadline to return Summer Programs sign-up sheet.

Tue 18 - Lottery for oversubscribed seminars. Seminar confirmations will be emailed/mailed during the days following the lottery. You may still register, but won't be included in any lottery.

Fri 21 - Summer Program: "Chester Theatre Productions," a talk by Artistic Director Byam Stevens, 2:00–4:00 p.m. Mt Tom Room, Easthampton Lathrop.
Contacts: Anne Lombard @ 586-7509 or Dorothy Gorra @ 584-8832.

JUNE

Wed 2 - Summer Program: Montague Plains Wildlife Management Area, 9:00– 11:00 a.m. See yellow Summer Programs booklet for details and directions. Rain date is Friday 4th June

Thur 3 - Curriculum Committee meeting, 2:30–4:30 p.m. Five Colleges, 97 Spring St, Amherst

Fri 4, 11, 18, 25 - French Conversation with Judith Pool, 1:30–3:30 p.m. Highland Valley Elder Services, 320 Riverside Drive, Florence **Contact:** Judith Pool @ 586-2190 (*No openings*)

Letter from the President of 5CLIR

Dear Fellow Members:

Thanks to everyone who worked so hard, the Preview was even a bigger success than usual. Things don't just happen; your fellow members imagine, dream, plan and then get to work and make it happen. We are truly a volunteer organization, and the Preview is a fine example of how well we work together. The plans started when the Curriculum Committee set the date almost a year ago and then continued to work until they had 25 exciting seminars to offer.



The Summer Programs made sure that we had something to do all summer by offering trips to theatres, museums, lectures, computer workshops and outdoor events like cruising down the Connecticut River or a walk-about on the Montague Plains with a wildlife management expert.

Special Programs has listened to your ideas and is offering again an array of activities throughout each semester that allow us to connect with other members on a more informal basis. If you have an idea for an event or activity, just send it to the Special Programs Committee or better yet, why not join the committee?

Just as the Tech Committee was at the Preview helping with all the technical aspects of the program, the Tech committee can often be found helping an individual or another committee on one project or another.

By now I do hope you have noticed our wonderful new website created by Janet Price, our new webmaster. It is still www.5clir.org, but we do need to thank Hy Edlestein, who was the webmaster for years, and one of those who helped drag us screaming and kicking into the internet world.

Great Decisions ended with another excellent presentation and discussion. We all look forward to Great Decisions, and thanks to Dave and Ginny's terrific committee, we were not disappointed. In the audience there are always non-members, and this year, thanks to the display of upcoming seminars, two joined even before the Preview.

Behind the scenes the Membership Committee has been calling new members and reminding them to attend the Preview and other events. This committee is certainly wonderful in letting new members know that we really do welcome them into our organization.

Did you see our ad that the Public Relations Committee put in the Gazette and the Recorder? There were other big attractions on the 25th and at the same time, but with Public Relations' new ideas and with many of you encouraging friends and associates to come, we had an excellent member turnout, and 47 interested non-members attended the Preview, a new record.

So, be sure to give a big thank you to all who worked so hard, and a special thank you to Callie who always manages to see that everything is in place and goes smoothly.

How about being one of those wonderful members who volunteer? Join a committee; it is really a lot of fun.

Sara

NOTES

Computer Workshops

On June 8th and 9th the LIR Tech Committee will be holding two computer-related workshops at Smith College.

The first, on Tuesday the 8th, will cover Email topics, including sending and receiving attachments, sending to groups, and organizing emails and blind copies, among others.

The second, on Wednesday the 9th, will deal with using the Internet to improve LIR presentations. Included in the topics covered will be finding images and text on the internet and using advanced features of Google and copying that material into a Word or PowerPoint page.

Both workshops will be held from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in 212 Seelye Hall, Smith College. **Questions?** Contact Jim Harvey 259-4404 or jimharvey293@gmail.com

Comment on our new website:

I must confess that I have not looked at our 5CLIR website with frequency in the last couple of years. Yesterday I decided to check it out; and what a wonderful surprise! It looks terrific, it is clear and crisp, and it is an excellent piece of graphic design. I would like to congratulate our technology committee and above all Janet Price who seems to be the creator of the new look. One of the great features is the clarity and sparseness of the website pages, and I am glad to see both the newsletter and the current seminar list are on the website.

Many thanks to all who worked on it.








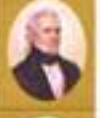










Arnold Friedmann

Survey Results Compiled by Hy Edelstein and Chuck Gillies

Be sure to read the accompanying report of the all-LIR member survey, compiled and written by Hy and Chuck. Many thanks to them for taking the time and effort to do this! Some results will be what you expected, but others will not.

Choose Your President

As a brand-new member of LIR, I attended the seminar on 19th-Century American Presidents, led by Larry Ambs and Dean Poli. It was a fine group and we had a great time learning about all the minor Presidents of the period, trying to assess the accomplishments and non-accomplishments of 'leaders' such as Martin Van Buren, Millard Fillmore, and James Garfield. For the last seminar meeting our own leaders asked us to rate all the presidents studied. It was a great thought-exercise and we all rated enthusiastically. Our results (with thanks to Charlie Klem) are given below (A= passed with ease; C= passed with difficulty; F= wouldn't miss him).

			Rating			
			EASE	DIFFICULTY	WOULDN'T MISS HIM	
			James Madison (1809-17)	8	3	1
			James Monroe (1817-25)	9	3	
			John Quincy Adams (1825-29)	5	5	2
			Andrew Jackson (1829-37)	9	3	1
			Martin Van Buren (1837-41)	2	7	3
			William Henry Harrison (1841)		5	5
			John Tyler (1841-45)		6	6
			James Polk (1845-49)	9	2	1
			Zachary Taylor (1849-50)	1	7	2
			Millard Fillmore (1850-53)		8	3
			Franklin Pierce (1853-57)		3	9
			James Buchanan (1857-61)		3	9
			Andrew Johnson (1865-69)		4	8
			Ulysses S. Grant (1869-77)	4	8	1
			Rutherford B. Hayes (1877-81)	1	9	1
			James Garfield (1881)	1	4	6
			Chester Arthur (1881-85)	3	6	3
			Grover Cleveland (1885-89)	4	6	1

I found it interesting to see the ranges of opinion on any one president. James Monroe was the only one who did not get a single F. Many presidents were greatly admired by some and disliked by others, for various reasons. We went around the room and discussed our individual criteria for our ratings, with a good-natured respect for disparate views. I think we all felt we learned a lot from the seminar and the summing-up process.

What a marvellous introduction to the Learning in Retirement program!

-- Gordon Wyse

GREAT DECISIONS PICTURE GALLERY

The morning starts here...

l to r: Sandy Cortez-Greig (in the dark), Claire Sherr, Callie Orszak, Betsy Belden and Irv Howards handle registrations, book sales, and lunch bookings at the Northampton Senior Center, the venue for our annual Great Decisions program.



All photographs courtesy of Ginny Christenson; technical wizardry provided by Peter Reitt.



Jeff Caplan, our Publicity Committee Chair, with speaker Mahnaz Mahdavi.



Great Decisions Committee Co-Chair David Cramer introduces a program.



Chuck Gillies (*l*) and Peter Ferber (*r*), during the discussion session following a lecture.

GREAT DECISIONS PICTURE GALLERY



Sandy Belden and Larry Ambs check out the microphone prior to a Great Decisions lecture. The Technology Committee organized the equipment for the series of lectures, and the Chair, Philippe Meyer, provided screen entertainment for the audience beforehand and during intermission.



Speaker John Ungerleider

GREAT DECISIONS PICTURE GALLERY



Sandy Cortez-Greig, our first speaker, and a member of LIR, takes part in the discussion during a later lecture. Dorothy Gorra (*r*) and Elsie Bandman (*l*) look on, and Peter Ferber waits pensively for the mic.



LIR member Richard Mudgett takes the floor.



Arnold Friedmann, Peter Ferber, Gloria Ferber, Sally Wilbur (back to camera) and Zina Tillona enjoy the coffee break.

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