



Lifelong Learning Institute at Waubonsee Community College

President's Corner

I hope all of you are enjoying the wide variety of this fall's courses! As you know, our facilitators work diligently to share their knowledge and insights with our members. They appreciate your active participation and interchange, which contribute to the lifelong learning experience.

The Board has been working hard on behalf of its 309 members. We hosted our first Member Orientation Meeting on October 17, an opportunity to meet other members and learn about our organization. The Governance Ad Hoc Committee, established to explore the organization of the Board and Curriculum Council, made its recommendations to the Board. Since these changes require modifications to our current Bylaws, detailed information has been mailed to all members for review. We welcome your input, which can be provided at our regularly-scheduled December and January Board meetings.

The Curriculum Council is creating a standing committee to explore ways in which to expand our offerings. Suggestions include recruiting more outside speakers and considering other formats. Our Technology Committee is working closely with the college to evaluate potential online registration platforms. We look forward to implementing such a system since our current manual registration process puts a strain on our volunteers. Of course, we will keep you posted on the progress of this effort. We are committed to providing our members with the necessary training and assistance to make this a seamless transition.

I hope to see you at the Holiday Luncheon on December 16. This is a festive time to mingle with friends and have a preview of our upcoming spring offerings.

Wishing you and your loved ones a holiday season filled with the spirit of gratitude and the promise of hope.

Mary Maiers
President

Spring Luncheon

Come and celebrate the conclusion of another year of LLI on Tuesday **June 2, 2020**. Get a sneak peak of what our next year will look like while you savor food and companionship with the LLI community.

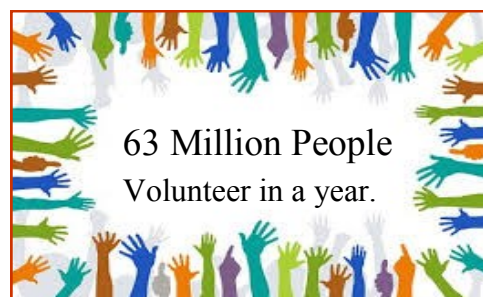


Curriculum Council Corner

Feedback on programs is important. Course evaluations help keep the Lifelong Learning Institute a thriving and growing organization. Feedback on programs gives the Curriculum Council ideas for new programs, helps to identify changes that need to be made for the convenience of our members, gives a heads-up on problems with venues and audio/visual equipment, and numerous other issues. Without the information from course evaluations the LLI leadership cannot attempt to solve problems or increase the quality of the programs offered by our organization. Please be sure to fill out your course evaluations; we are always open to comments, compliments and constructive suggestions—and volunteers.

Submitted by

Mary Ochsenschlager



Save the Dates!

When you get your shiny new calendar soon, don't forget to mark these important 2020 dates right away!

Monday, January 13 – The Spring 2020 registration shuffle begins! It is recommended that you return your registration form ASAP after receiving it. (Catalogs will be mailed December 17, 2019 – so watch for yours!)

Monday, January 20 – Last day to submit a course, outing, or trip proposal for summer 2020!

Friday, March 20 - Last day to submit a course, outing, or trip proposal for fall 2020!

Tuesday, June 2 – Spring Luncheon!

Inaugural Member Orientation

On October 17, 2019, the first ever Member Orientation was held. New and old members attended to gain a better understanding of the mission of our organization. Thirty LLI members, eight of whom were new members, met at Waubensee Sugar Grove campus in room 106 of the Student Center.

The Sustainability Committee, as approved by the Board, recommended the orientation as an annual event to provide more information about the organization and to answer questions that may have surfaced during the past year. The session started with a conversational ice breaker followed by President Mary Maiers presenting on the history, guiding principles, organization, policies, volunteer opportunities and future of the organization.

Lin Bargemann and Ellen Neupert shared what LLI was like back in the first days—over 20 years ago. Experiences in LLI were shared, including the many reasons to become a facilitator. Following a discussion and handing out of a listing of volunteer opportunities, sign-up forms were available for those choosing to share their talents.

The session was all about communication—sharing ideas and experiences. We can't wait for next year's session and hope you can join us!



Carl Bargemann



Kathy Leahy and Kim Carew



Mary Ann White and Dick Sackett



Patty Blaida and Terry Blaida

Social Hospitality/Chair

No detail is too small for Andi Danis. LLI's major social events, including our Holiday and Spring luncheon and the Coffee Kaltch, are held every year through the efforts of our Social Hospitality/Committee Chair. Andi is the person responsible for aiding in the selection of the venue, negotiating the contract, determining room arrangements, maintaining attendance records, scheduling greeters, and all other duties as assigned. The social events get high marks for supporting the LLI sense of community. Thank you Andi for all your great work!



Andi
Danis



In Memoriam

LLI offers its sympathies to the family and friends of former LLI member Dale Von Ohlen, age 98. Dale passed away on November 10th. He was born on June 4th, 1921. He was a Lieutenant in the Army during WWII where he received a Bronze Star. Dale owned and operated Hansen Mattress Co. from 1946 until his retirement. His proudest accomplishment was being one of the founders of Waubensee Community College. Instrumental in getting the referendum passed, he became the first Chairman of the Board and held the position from 1966-1970. He retained a position on the Board of Directors until 1983. The Fine Arts Building on the Sugar Grove Campus is named in his honor. Dale is survived by four children, eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren. If so desired, donations can be made to the Dale R. and Marie E. Von Ohlen Memorial Scholarship at Waubensee Community College. Go to www.waubensee.edu/donate to make a gift online. Or send a check to Waubensee Community College Foundation, Rt. 47 at Waubensee Dr. Sugar Grove, IL. 60554.

BOOK HOON



- ***A Gentleman in Moscow: A Novel*** by Amor Towles introduces the reader to a fictional character, Count Alexander Rostov, who faces the dilemma of creating a new life when his life as an aristocrat ends in 1922. Furthermore, because of an inconvenient poem written in his youth, the Count has been restricted to live in a famous hotel with only a single room in the attic as his personal domain. Our character's adaptation becomes the reader's delight as our character meets his challenges with ingenuity, compassion, and great insight into human existence. The Count's famous hotel, the Metropol, is actually very real and beautiful. You, like others, could find yourself in Moscow visiting this hotel to touch the spirit of the heroic and fictional Count Rostov.
- ***The Hello Girls: America's First Women Soldiers*** by Elizabeth Cobbs reveals an instance of women being undervalued in history. In 1918 the U.S. Army Signal Corps sent 223 women to France to help win World War I because, try as they might, men could not master the telephone switchboard—essential technology to gain a victory in Europe. The author brings these special women to life in the context of the suffragette movement, World War I, and the remnants of the Victorian age quickly being replaced by a new world order. The women's dismissal from the military after the war began the sixty-year battle for their veterans' benefits which they were denied. A handful of survivors finally experienced triumph in 1979.
- ***Rick Steves Travel as a Political Act*** by Rick Steves suggests that travel increases knowledge of the world in which we live as well the compassion and understanding of other cultures and the people with whom we share the world. We do that by extending ourselves not only by seeing the sites of the world but encountering the people and the realities of their customs. If we just move through a country seeing the sites, we are shortchanging ourselves of the real education that travel offers. Learning phrases of the language and extending ourselves into the world of local people outside of the tourist sites allows for a view and encounter of our universal humanity—central to the issue of a peaceful world with value for all.



For the Love of Art

Eric Jensen, one of the world's leaders in translating neuroscience into education, states in his book *Arts with the Brain in Mind*, "The systems they nourish, which include our integrated sensory, attentional, cognitive, emotional, and motor capacities, are, in fact, the driving forces behind all other learning." In short, the arts and our relationship to them may be doing more for us than we think.

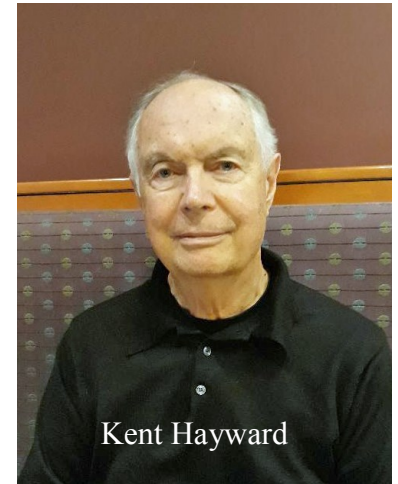
That spirit was alive and well in this fall's LLI *Open Arts Studio* course where participants were able to practice hands on learning in a supportive atmosphere under the guidance of facilitator, Val Henrich. Working together with fellow artists is both inspiring and informative which is perfect for sparking creativity and learning. Val reported: "We had wonderful feedback from the whole class and the variety of media shared and tried. We are looking forward to the spring class to keep our contacts and creative efforts going. We also will be looking for new volunteer demonstrators to visit, but several of the classmates have willingly shared their works and tips, too. It is truly a valuable experience in shared lifelong learning! Thanks to LLI and to the Sugar Grove Library for the opportunities."



The Challenge of Numbers

With a background in mechanical engineering and marketing, Kent Hayward values numbers. He explored those numbers as they relate to potential LLI participation. At the Fall Facilitators Round Table he shared the following points:

- ◆ The senior population is living longer and now is welcoming into their numbers the largest populated generation, the Baby Boomers. To be noted, only nine counties out of 102 in Illinois are growing.
- ◆ The following national estimates have been made: 30 million senior citizens over 65 by **2015** (9% of population); 39 million senior citizens over 65 by **2030** (12% of population); and the over-65 population estimated to be 17% senior citizens by **2050**.
- ◆ Considering the growing senior populations in the LLI service area, we could see a significant growth in LLI member numbers.
- ◆ After having read information regarding the newest generation, the Baby Boomers, moving into the senior population, Kent has suggested that LLI needs to consider making changes to accommodate that new group of LLI participants. The changes Kent suggests are: switching to electronic online registration, offering courses in technology and politics, arranging more trips, reducing the wait list, using larger meeting rooms, and finding more facilitators.



Kent Hayward

Thank you to Kent for his research and willingness to share his insights. In addition to Kent's points, we all know that modern medicine is recommending that we exercise our mental capacities much like we exercise our bodies. LLI is an organization that serves that need for seniors.

To round out our perspective, a look at the characteristics of the Baby Boomers would be helpful. Christopher Pappas on eLearning Industry, a network based media publishing company, points out characteristics of Baby Boomers which follow.

Mr. Pappas points out that Baby Boomers aren't afraid of working hard because some of their self-worth comes directly from their professional achievements. This generation is independent, self-assured and will voice their opinions if they think something violates their personal values or perspective. Baby Boomers enjoy competition. Some like a tangible reward while others are driven by internal forces, such as self-improvement and personal growth.

This post-war generation likes setting goals and enjoys achieving them. They are resourceful and focused mentally. They possess a strong sense of community and thrive in team environments, whether that is in-person or online. Finally they are disciplined and like structure. They may not be "digital natives", but technology can still be a valuable learning tool.

Birth Year Ranges of Three Population Groups

Silent Generation 1928-1945

Baby Boomers 1945-1965

Generation X 1965-1980

Course Proposal Training

Instructions for Membership To Submit a Proposal

In preparation for the summer of 2020 course proposal deadline of January 20, 2020, the Facilitator Assistance Bureau (a committee of the Curriculum Council) has arranged for three opportunities for you to learn how to complete and submit the new online course proposal form. These workshops will be offered for those that would like assistance in completing the form and also for those that don't have access to a computer. If you don't have a computer or email account, but would still like to complete the form in the new method, we can also provide assistance in completing that task. For now, the proposal form may still be submitted in hard copy form to Barb Jachna.

The reason for the development of this online proposal is that the volunteers who use the submitted proposal forms to create the course catalogs would appreciate the change to the new method to cut down on the large amount of time involved in processing the course information for catalog publication. If you choose to continue to hand write your proposal form, please write as plainly as you can. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Three identical trainings will have the following format:

- ◇ Short explanation of how to download the course proposal form, save it, complete it, save it again and then attach it to an email to Barb Jachna.
- ◇ Time for individual work and assistance from FAB committee members.
- ◇ Help for those who don't have an email or a computer to complete their proposal forms and arranging for emailing the form to Barb.

The trainings will be held on the Waubensee Sugar Grove Campus - Room HCC 103:

Thursday, January 2, 2020 2:00 PM

Wednesday, January 8, 2020 9:00 AM

Thursday, January 16, 2020 1:00 PM

If you are interested in attending one of these sessions please contact: Ruth Harmon, 630-879-9170 or ruthharmon1946@gmail.com.

** If you are planning to submit a course proposal form and don't need assistance to complete it, please don't feel the need to attend one of these sessions.

Member Input On Fall Offerings

An Overview of Judaism, facilitated by Suzan Spitzberg

This was one of the most informative LLI courses I have ever taken. In one session I learned about the Jewish faith, history and traditions - all presented with interest and objectivity. The facilitator shared her personal stories with insight and humor. I would love to see this course repeated.

Breaking Through the Ranks: A History of Women in Law Enforcement, facilitated by Lynn Schroder

Who better to tell the story than Lynn, a retired sergeant on the St. Charles Police Department! Women's role in law enforcement has evolved dramatically over the years. Pioneers in the field were presented in a way that made them come alive. Members, although in different careers, could relate to shared stories of bias and discrimination. Much has been accomplished, but more change is needed.

Heart Innovation Pioneers, co-facilitated by Carl Hays and Mary Maiers

"Just about everyone in this room has been affected by heart issues, either directly or indirectly. I am learning so much and am so glad I signed up for this class." Dr. Sandeep Jauhar, author of the optional text *Heart: A History*, shares his personal story and those of pioneers in the field through storytelling. "We can't put the book down!" Who would know that our own Carl Hays is one of those pioneers, spending his career developing medical devices. His personal insights and stories truly added relevance to this course!

John McCain, Hero and Public Servant, facilitated by Ellen Neupert

Members discussed *The Restless Wave: Good Times, Just Causes, Great Fights and Other Appreciations*, the last book authored by McCain before his passing. Insights into his career and character were shared in the context of our current polarized political environment. All agreed John McCain has made a mark in our history. A comment shared by many, "I may not have agreed with all of his political positions, but I certainly respect his honor and integrity." What inspirational words to live by!

Guest Presentations:

Neutrinos - Phantoms of the Cosmos, organized by Paul Mantsch

I had never heard of these "mysterious" particles before and learned much about them. They pass through matter and are the most abundant in nature. Did you know they come in "flavors" and travel close to the speed of light?! Fermilab is in our own backyard. Of course, we should come here to absorb the knowledge shared by these gifted scientists in the field.

Will Trump Win Again? Organized by Carl Hays

Northern Illinois University political scientist and guest presenter Artemus Ward returned to LLI to provide insights into the 2020 election. He has clearly achieved "rock star" status with our members. Some feedback from those in attendance: "Dr. Ward has a terrific mind." "He is informative and humorous." "I don't always like what he says, but it needs to be heard." "He hit a home run!" "This is the best LLI class I have ever attended." "Dr. Ward is a voice of reason in an insane season."

Hate Crimes, Immigration & Human Rights

You may see a flyer for an event, “*Hate Crimes, Immigration & Human Rights*”, sponsored by Waubonsee Community College and the ACLU. The flyer is in regard to a class Carl Hayes is offering this spring. Thirty LLI members and thirty WCC students are invited to participate in a discussion of current issues in our society. The flyer itself states: Join Waubonsee’s Lifelong Learning Institute members to learn about and discuss important current issues as presenter Ben Wolfe, Legal Director of ACLU of Illinois, addresses hate crimes, immigration, and human rights. The ACLU is a non-partisan activist organization. Pizza will be served. This class will be offered on April 7 from 12:30 p.m.- 3 p.m.



Be Prepared, Be Safe

Winter of 2019-20 is predicted to be cold, snowy, and windy.

Whether AccuWeather or the Farmer’s Almanac wins the most accurate forecast, we’re in for a little of everything. The only thing you can do is be prepared.

So, trade in your fall leaves and hot cider for your warm winter coat and hot cocoa.

Be sure your car is tuned up, the tires have good tread on them and you have some supplies for an emergency. Keep these supplies inside your car, not the trunk. You’ll have them handy if your trunk is jammed or frozen shut. There are three key things to remember: car maintenance, driver comfort and safety, as well as nutrition and sustenance.

For the car, it’s a good idea to have: jumper cables, road salt, reflectors, a shovel and an ice scraper. Check those wiper blades now. It’s also time to check the spare tire, jack and lug wrench or find a service station that will check those items for you.

In an emergency, a first aid kit, flashlight, sleeping bag, extra gloves, a pocket knife, a battery powdered radio, and even a solar cell charger would be invaluable. Now you have something to put on your Christmas List.

Extra water, nonperishable snacks as well as extra medications might be critical if you have to wait until help arrives.

Be prepared and be safe even in the worst weather.

Rush

Every fall and spring a cadre of LLI volunteers enjoys serving Waubensee students by working at the Sugar Grove campus bookstore. This fun activity provides a valuable service to Waubensee students. In appreciation for our volunteers' efforts, Waubensee Community College provides funding for the LLI Scholarships! It's a win-win-win! The new Rush Chair, Suzanne Smulin, says she agreed to volunteer for LLI in this capacity when she heard there was a need and she wanted to do her part in appreciation because she enjoys participating in LLI courses so much. She thought "What a great way to raise money for students in need." Suzanne elaborates "I have been with LLI several years attending classes. I have made some great new friends and have learned a lot from the classes I've attended. The volunteer instructors (facilitators) do a really good job!" Thank you to Suzanne for taking on this important role!

LLI gratefully acknowledges these volunteers who participated in the Fall 2019 Rush:

Ron Anderson	Kay Bartley	Bobbie Brown
Joyce Burns	Jeannine Cowart	Lynne DiTraglia
Jeanne Garlitz	Joe Garlitz	Ruth Harmon
W. Eric Harris	Tom Hartman	Carl Hays
Kent Hayward	Nita Hayward	Jim Hofer
Lou Ann Hoffman	Adam Holtz	Jay Labelle
Sherry Lemen	Mary Maiers	Gary Mayer
Jan Mayer	Nancy Modery	Robert Orland
Jane Powell	Carol Putnam	Carolyn Sackett
Dick Sackett	Gail Tattersfield	Mary Ann White
Betty Williams	Kay Woulfe	

Additional volunteers are always needed and welcome! The dates for Winter Rush are: January 18 – January 24, 2020. Each weekday shift is only 2 hours long (8:30-10:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 12:30-2:30 p.m., or 2:30-4:30 p.m.); or 3 hours long on Saturday (9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) Forty volunteers are needed. If you would like to volunteer in this fun role, please contact Suzanne at s.smulin@gmail.com or at 630-466-0359



Know the facts:

- ⇒ Government employees will not threaten you or take away benefits or ask for money or current information.
- ⇒ Scammers can fake your caller ID. Don't be fooled if the call appears to be a real phone call from the SSA's real phone number.
- ⇒ If a caller asks for your Social Security number or bank account number or credit card number, hang up!

Report suspected scams to the Inspector General at (800) 269-0271 or <https://oig.ssa.gov/report>. Visit <https://IdentifyTheft.gov/SSA> for more tips.



Lifelong Learning Institute at Waubonsee Community College

Waubonsee Community College
Lifelong Learning Institute Office
Collins Hall, Room 174
Sugar Grove, IL 60554

(630) 466-2593

www.waubonsee.edu/lli

Our **Values** include continued learning, intellectual inquiry, social interaction, and active member participation in lifelong learning.

Our **Mission** is to provide our membership with a defined and member-generated framework for life-enriching, dynamic educational experiences through lifelong learning programs.

Our **Vision** is to be a self-sustaining and self-governing community of active mature adults offering a diverse and intellectually stimulating array of noncredit educational offerings in a wide variety of academic disciplines.

Waubonsee Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, national origin, veteran's status, marital status, disability or any other characteristic protected by law in its programs and activities. For more information on the college's nondiscrimination policies, contact the Executive Director of Human Resources at (630) 466-7900, ext. 2367; Waubonsee Community College, Route 47 at Waubonsee Dr., Sugar Grove, IL 60554-9454.

If You Need to Reach an LLI Board or Curriculum Council Member:

Board Members:

President:

Mary Maers
(630) 937-4133
marymaers@att.net

Vice President:

Dick Sackett
(630) 466-3719
sackett@ameritech.net

Secretary:

Peggy Carlson
(630) 414-6691
pcarlson1749@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Jay Labelle
(312) 286-4092
jlabelle2@yahoo.com

Member Services Coordinator:

Christine Hepinstall
(630) 879-8496
c.hepinstall@sbcglobal.net

Operations Coordinator:

Kent Hayward
(630) 896-6705
kent.hayward@yahoo.com

LLI Coordinator/Liaison:

Barb Jachna
(630) 466-6804
bjachna@waubonsee.edu

LLI Newsletter Committee:

Jerre Henriksen
630-882-8124
JerreHenriksen@aol.com

Bridget Tryon
630-208-7160
kctryon@aol.com

Curriculum Council:

Carla Goetz
(630) 262-0602
carlagoetz@comcast.net

Ruth Harmon
(630) 879-9170
ruthharmon1946@gmail.com

*Jim Hofer
(630) 800-4990
jandjhofer13@gmail.com

Paul Mantsch
(630) 464-1930
paulmmantsch@gmail.com

Mary Ochenschlager
(630) 643-4922
maryoxie@sbcglobal.net

*Jane Powell
(630) 392-1176
janedick@hotmail.com

*Mary Ann White
(331) 466-4206
mawhite466@aol.com

* Curriculum Council Representatives
on the Board.

