



# Institute for Learning in Retirement Inc. at Albertus Magnus College

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*Summer Learning at the University of Cambridge, Corpus Christi College, UK*



*The ILR Board of Governors*



*Cordially invites you to the*

*ILR Semi-Annual meeting and Holiday Tea*

*Wednesday, December 14, 2016*

*The Cultural Arts Center at the Whitney Center*

*200 Leeder Hill Drive*

*Hamden, Connecticut*

*1:00 PM to 3:00 PM*

*RSVP by December 7: 203-283-5362*

*The Amity High School Chorus will entertain us with selections from their winter concert.*



## Marcia's Journeys



ILR and the day trips I have been planning for years are always fun for me as well as interesting. I'm always pleased when members who go on these trips tell me that they not only enjoy them, but learn as well.

For this coming spring I am working on a number of excellent possibilities, a cruise with an historical walking tour, eating lunch as it would have been prepared at the New York Tenement House Museum in the very early 1900's , and a visit to see a Faire World. Sometimes these and other possibilities work out to be fascinating explorations and sometimes they do not! If any of these possibilities interest you or if **YOU** have suggestions of a place or places to visit, please call me at 203-795-4444. I welcome your suggestions and would love to talk with you about interesting places.

Marcia Jamron, ILR Day Trip Coordinator

## *Greetings from the President*

Dear ILR members,

We are well into our fall 2016 semester and I am happy to announce that we have reached new levels of active participation of our membership. This is really encouraging and helps your board move forward on this path of offering the wide range of activities you all expect for the upcoming semester.

As our country goes through a significant transition we, our ILR, will be also undertaking some changes by moving our online processes to a platform which will support a more intuitive use of the functionalities which our organization requires. Thus, I acknowledge that we have listened to your comments and made the necessary changes. "Change is good!" as they say. You'll be able to review the upcoming changes in our VP Susan Vallillo's abstract in this newsletter.

I would like to thank you for your support as we are about to end a successful year for ILR and wish you all the best for the upcoming Holidays. We hope to see you all at our Holiday Tea and semi-annual meeting on December 14th.

As the Chinese proverb suggests "May you live in interesting times!" which deftly describes the times that we will be experiencing.

Mito Mardin

President



### **Waiver Needed.**

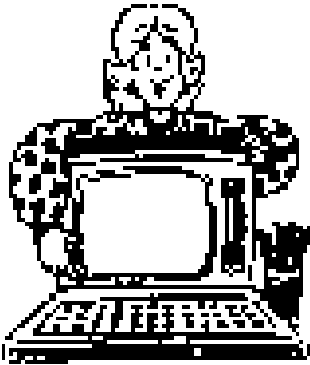
CourseStorm, our new on-line platform, allows us to collect dues before either the spring or fall semesters, renewable at the same time the following year. However, language in our current by-laws does not allow a policy of rolling membership. "**Membership shall be open to all retired and semi-retired persons who pay dues for the calendar year.**" Rather than attempt the cumbersome and time-consuming task of re-writing the by-laws by January 1<sup>st</sup>, the Board of Governors recommends that the membership waive this rule at the December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. A by-laws revision committee will convene in early 2017 to allow for rolling membership and to update other language affected by the on-line membership and registration process.

### **Discount for ILR Members**

The Neighborhood Music School in New Haven, offering music, dance and drama to all ages of children and adults, and all levels of experience, is offering a 10% discount to their membership fee for ILR members.

We no longer have a telephone number. Reach us on the Web at [www.ilralbertus.org](http://www.ilralbertus.org)

## *Registration Improvements*



It has been nearly a year since we instituted online course registration. Since January 1, 2016, we have processed more than 2400 registrations in almost 80 classes. ILR has had a very busy year! The bulk of these registrations were made directly online by you and we want to thank the members who traveled this new road with us.

These same members were also invaluable in letting the Tech Task Force know what went right and what went wrong. Many of you experienced common problems when trying to register, viewing the order of the classes and confusion in setting up accounts. The Tech Task force has heard you. During the summer they explored ways to improve your registration experience to make the process easier and less confusing to use, and to offer more options to find classes you wish to take.

On January 1, 2017, we will transition to a new program platform called

### **CourseStorm.**

With CourseStorm, we will be able to

- Show classes based on days of the week, locations, instructors and interests.
- Add informative graphics for each class which will be displayed on the registration home page
- Simplify the registration process even if you are adding multiple people

In addition to improvements for the member experience, the back office accounting functions for our Registrar and Treasurer will also be simplified.

CourseStorm also has the ability to provide a direct membership registration screen without having to register for a \$0 class for membership. This was a major issue for members so we are happy to be able to eliminate that confusion.

Several of our Board Members have tested the site and have given it very positive feedback. They found it easy to use and visually appealing. We hope you will too.

Although there will be a new provider, you will still be able to go directly from our website to the registration site as you have in the past. The Tech Task force will again provide phone and hands-on assistance for any member who has questions or difficulty in registering.

We feel CourseStorm provides a much needed simplification of our registration process and we are excited about the many improvements we can make to the presentation of and registration process for classes. Using CourseStorm to streamline our registration process and provide attractive and appealing course presentations, will encourage existing members and help us reach out to new members to join ILR and grow our organization in the years ahead.

WE'RE ON THE WEB

WWW.ILRALBERTUS.ORG



**INSTITUTE FOR LEARNING IN RETIREMENT Inc.**

**at Albertus Magnus College**

Box 1156, Orange, CT 06477

### **Spend Next Summer Learning at Cambridge University**

ILR as an organization is hosted by Albertus Magnus College. What you might not know is that we are also affiliated with the Road Scholar Network. This affiliation allows us to take advantage of many interesting programs. One such program is the summer program for Lifelong Learning at the University of Cambridge, Corpus Christi College in Britain.

This residential summer school, based at Corpus Christi College, will give lifelong learners the extraordinary opportunity to experience something of Cambridge student life in the context of a program specifically designed for adult learners from around the world. Participants can choose to attend the full two-week program, or opt to attend for just one week (either the first week: Sunday 27 August – Saturday 2 September 2017, or the second week: Sunday 3 September – Saturday 9 September 2017).

Information on the courses offered, social program, accommodation and meals, costs and how to apply can be found at <http://www.corpus.cam.ac.uk/conferences/cambridge-lifelong-learning/>. As there are a limited number of places available for the summer school, and applications are processed on a rolling basis, early submission of applications is highly recommended.

You can also register your interest in this and future programs by contacting Dr. Nick Godfrey ([ncjgodfrey@gmail.com](mailto:ncjgodfrey@gmail.com))