



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

Table of Contents

Page 1

Semi-Annual Meeting and Holiday Gathering

TicketsatWork

Page 2

Message from the President

ILR Facebook Guru

Summer Learning at Girton College, the University of Cambridge, UK

Members Visit the Louisa May Alcott House

Page 3

ILR Tech Corner

Page 4

Great Decisions



Semi-Annual Meeting and Holiday Gathering



Tuesday, December 11, 2018

1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Race Brook Country Club

246 Derby Avenue, Orange, CT 06477

Come join our holiday celebration! After a brief business meeting we will enjoy a light buffet of finger sandwiches, muffins and scones, fresh fruit, mini desserts, coffee and tea.

Jack Lynn will entertain us with his “Dino” and Sinatra style sound. Jack’s program will take us back to the swinging “Rat Pack” era.

The ILR Board of Governors is hosting this event and there is no charge for ILR members. There is a \$24 fee for non-member guests. Members will receive an email explaining how to RSVP via CourseStorm. Members without email should respond by telephone by December 4th: 203-283-5362.

If after you respond you are unable to attend, please let us know. ILR is charged for each confirmed reservation.

Please Note: Race Brook County Club has a strict no-jeans policy.

ILR Board announces a new ILR membership benefit, TicketsatWork.

Through **TicketsatWork**, members can receive discounts and special access to:

- car rentals, hotels, tours
- theme parks and attractions
- Las Vegas and Broadway shows, concerts, and performances
- movie tickets, sporting events, and other special events

This benefit is available at no cost to ILR and no cost to members. To access these benefits, go to www.TicketsatWork.com and click on the “Become a Member” box on the homepage. Complete the registration form including the **Company Code**. The ILR company code is **IFLRET**. Once enrolled you will have access to discounts and can order tickets online or by phone at 800-331-6483.

You will also receive emails with featured discounts and promotions. Enjoy!

Greetings from the President

Hi Members,

Now that the leaves have been turning and we in New England are enjoying a vibrant fall, let's take a moment to savor the past semester and look ahead to the end of the year.

This fall, our classes were filled and we gained more than 73 new members due to your efforts and word of mouth. Keep up the good work. We appreciate it.

In this newsletter, we review our new affiliation with TicketsatWork. As a free, added benefit to membership, you can take advantage of discounts to many popular local and national events, shows and theme parks.

We also discuss some of the challenges we faced with registration for the fall semester and how to avoid member disappointment with filled classes for the upcoming spring semester.

The Tech Corner has some interesting tidbits and remember, we are still looking for a "Social Media Guru". If you are interested in creating our ILR Wall in Facebook or other social media outlets, take a look at our volunteer opportunity.

Looking ahead, please "save the date" for our Annual Holiday Celebration event on December 11. The details are in this newsletter. It's a very special event for us as the ILR Board gets to say thank you for all of your help and support during the year.

Also, if you are looking for a holiday gift for a friend of a certain age, why not consider giving a membership in ILR? It's a gift that keeps on giving throughout the year and enhances social interaction.

As you can see, ILR is a growing and vibrant organization thanks to you, our members.

Keep learning,

Susan Vallillo

Become ILR's Social Media Guru!



Interested in volunteering to be our Facebook Guru? Please email info@ilralbertus.org and we will contact you.

Summer Learning at the University of Cambridge

Girton College, a constituent college of the University of Cambridge, offers adults a one or two week program to experience Cambridge student life.

For information visit www.girton.cam.ac.uk/summer-programmes/lifelong/ and contact Dr Nick Godfrey, Director of Summer Programmes, at summer@girton.cam.ac.uk.

ILR member Lynne Peck attended the program in 2017 and 2018. Feel free to contact Lynne about her experiences at lynnecpeck@gmail.com.



ILR members enjoying a beautiful autumn day at the Louisa May Alcott house.



Sign-in woes?

We received several calls and emails from members who had trouble logging in to register for courses. A common theme was that their email was not recognized. **Remember, when signing in to register for courses, it is important that you use the same email address you originally used to create your account. This original email address is your unique identifier to our system.**

If you have changed your email address or internet provider, log into your account with the old information and update your account record with the new information. Be sure to **save** the information once you have made the changes. If you share an email account with a spouse, please contact our Tech team to assist you if you encounter any problems.

New online account feature Many long-time members have taken numerous courses. Now, you can see your entire course registration history. When you log into your account, on the right side you will see **“Recent Registrations”** and directly below that **“View Registrations”** with the number of courses for which you have been registered. Click on that and you will see your entire course registration history.

Don’t receive our email blasts? The ILR board sends out blast emails to members to announce the opening date of online registration and other items of interest. Email providers automatically filter blast emails as spam or junk. Check your spam, junk or trash email folders periodically to see if anything has been mislabeled. Another way to avoid this is to add **support@coursestorm.com** to your address book or list of contacts.

Registration Tips

Many courses fill quickly creating disappointed members and wait lists. ILR policy is to open online registration three days **AFTER** the paper catalog is mailed to all members. This gives members who do not have online access an opportunity to peruse the catalog and quickly register for courses of interest.

We encountered several problems with paper registration this semester. Aside from the usual mail delivery delays, the Postal Service missorted mail to a wrong PO Box, some members sent completed forms and checks to the wrong address, and others sent forms without checks and cryptic email messages requesting registration for their desired classes.

We process both paper and electronic registrations as soon as they are received. Although we were able to address the above issues and register members for their courses, many members who registered with a paper form or by email request were disappointed to learn that their selected courses were closed, and they were relegated to wait lists.

What is the moral of this story? If you are a member with an email address, you already have an online ILR account. Register electronically and early to avoid the disappointment of your course selections being filled.

If you are unsure about how to register for courses electronically, our Tech Team is available to walk you through any problems you encounter. All you need to do is ask for help and we will provide it. (info@albertus.org).

About those wait lists. If your class is full when you try to register, sign on to the wait list. Health and family issues and other conflicts often lead members to withdraw from classes, which makes room for those on the wait list to register. Also, sometimes we are able to find a larger classroom or schedule a second class to accommodate more people. If your plans change and you won’t be able to attend, please cancel your registration so someone on the wait list can take your place.

WE'RE ON THE WEB

WWW.ILRALBERTUS.ORG



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Coming this winter - Great Decisions

The Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions is a forum for non-political discussion of current global concerns. The Great Decisions briefing book, published annually, provides background information, analysis, and suggested discussion questions for each of the eight foreign policy issues chosen. Four topics will be selected for the February 2019 session and four for our spring semester.

- Refugees and Global Migration
- The Middle East: Regional Disorder
- Nuclear Negotiations: Back to the Future?
- The Rise of Populism in Europe
- Decoding U.S- China Trade
- Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics
- The United States and Mexico: Partnership Tested
- State of the State Department and Diplomacy

Volunteers are needed to lead the discussion groups which will meet once a week in **February 2019**. Each participant must purchase the 2019 Great Decisions briefing book for \$32 . (We will try to get a group discount.) The total cost for each person participating will be \$35 (includes the book and the proportionate cost of the program video that ILR must purchase).

So we may plan accordingly, please let us know if you are interested in participating in the Great Decisions program for this winter and please also, let us know if you would like to be a discussion leader. Please respond to curriculum@ilralbertus.org or Joan Murphy at 203-314-6352.