



ILEAD Newsletter Spring/Summer 2009

INSTITUTE FOR LIFELONG EDUCATION AT DARTMOUTH • www.dartmouth.edu/~ilead/



President's Corner

One hundred seventy members enjoyed ILEAD's Annual Meeting on May 19, 2009, at the Lake Morey Inn. The social hour was spent lakeside and everyone present enjoyed the sunny spring weather. Lunch was delicious and our speaker, Brian Kennedy, Director of the Hood Museum, shared "Museum Musings: What Really Happens Behind the Scenes?" Assistant Provost Mary-Ella Zietz offered greetings from the College. The complete text of her remarks are at the right in the Provost's column.



Brian Kennedy

The Summer Lecture Series topic is "Media in Crisis." Because of construction associated with Dartmouth's new Arts Center, Spaulding Auditorium is not available to us this year. We have been fortunate to secure the use of Hanover High School's beautiful, newly-renovated auditorium which seats about 450 people. Series tickets will be available on a first-come first-served basis.

The Planning Committee reported in the Winter/Spring Newsletter that the Feasibility Study Interviews were about to be conducted with selected ILEAD members to see if ILEAD could raise funds to obtain a home of our own. The purpose of these interviews was to determine whether or not ILEAD had:

- An urgent and compelling case for support
- Volunteers willing to take on leadership roles in a capital campaign
- Donors and probable donors to invest in ILEAD's future
- Development of infrastructure and resources to support a campaign effort

Interviews began in March. The Yellow Brick Road consultants presented their report to the Executive Council in May.

Briefly, the consultants concluded that while ILEAD members are enthusiastic about ILEAD as a whole, in the current economy ILEAD would be unable to raise sufficient funds for the project as conceived. They offered several recommendations, including:

- Strengthen ILEAD's relationship with Dartmouth
- Transform the governance structure
- Hire an Executive Director
- Plan for the 20th and 25th anniversaries
- Research available facilities
- Revise the case for support to include program as well as facilities planning
- Develop campaign leadership and volunteers
- With Dartmouth's support, start an annual fund

We have already begun to address some of the recommendations. An *ad hoc* Committee on Governance has been created with Gerry Jones as Chair. That Committee's intention is to have a draft report complete by fall. Next year will be busy as we work on the rest of the recommendations.

Full report of the Feasibility Study is available from the ILEAD office staff.

Ann Hargraves, *President*

ILEAD's Annual Meeting



Four New Officers Elected at the Annual Meeting
l-r: Ann Hargraves, President; Anne Baird, Secretary; Martin Blumberg, Treasurer; Peter Bleyler, Vice President.

The Provost's Corner

Driving to Fairlee for the ILEAD Annual Meeting made me homesick for my first Vermont home in Newbury. Thank you for inviting me and for ordering another spectacular day for your event.

As Dartmouth is emerging into its new era, ILEAD is studying its own needs for the future and its relationship with Dartmouth. Reflected in the survey comments of two years ago and woven into the more recent work performed by consultants looking into ILEAD's strengths, weaknesses and future, is the importance of ILEAD's relationship with Dartmouth College.

In consideration of ILEAD's upcoming 20th anniversary, it is clear that what binds ILEAD and Dartmouth is the common mission around "lifelong learning." Dartmouth gets them here, and ILEAD brings them back.

The most striking event since last we were together, is Dartmouth's announcement of its 17th president, Dr. Jim Yong Kim, who will be arriving this summer. Provost Barry Scherr is heading up the transition team, and after that work is done, he will be stepping out of the Provost's office as first announced last fall.

Parkhurst is in the early days of incredible and exciting changes.

I want to acknowledge the people who give so much time to make this volunteer organization so successful:

- the members who support this vital part of the Upper Valley and provide the lively insight and discussion that keep you all coming back for more,
- the study leaders and committee members who share their time and expertise with the ILEAD community and by extension with Dartmouth,
- the ILEAD leadership – past, present and future – who work with care and diligence for all,
- And finally, to Lisa King and Jill Newcity who

continued page 2, MEETING

We want to keep you up-to-date on ILEAD news & events!
www.dartmouth.edu/~ilead/
See course listings, special events/lectures, study and travel tips, summer program.

Another Hot Subject for the Summer Lecture Series
This year it's the crisis in the Media. Twelve pros from the media world will help us understand what's happening and why. Hanover High School, Wed., July 8. Space is limited, so act promptly. Bruce Macdonald, *Chair*

Planning 2009-10

Effective with my election as Vice President of ILEAD, I became Chair *ex officio* of the Planning Committee.



Other members will be *ex officio* members Ann Hargraves, Marty Blumberg and Townsend Swayze. Plus, Tom Blinkhorn, Bob Field and Brian Quinn.

We will begin our activities with a thorough review of the Feasibility Study, its conclusions and recommendations.

Pete Bleyler, *Chair*

MEETING, from page 1

provide extraordinary support to ILEAD and who provide a valuable resource to Dartmouth College.

In conclusion, best wishes to you all, and again, thank you for inviting me to attend this beautiful event.

Mary-Ella Zietz, *Assistant Provost*

Campion Award

ILEAD awarded the 2009 Campion Award to Evva Larson and Tom Blinkhorn, who were honored for their "exceptional good service" to ILEAD.



Evva Larson & Tom Blinkhorn

New Editor Arrives



"I look forward to working with and for the members, learning more about all ILEAD's facets, and hearing from the membership about the Newsletter. My door – aka telephoned computer – will always be open."

Janet Schoeler,
New Editor

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Study/Travel: Egypt March 2009



It was in January 2007 that the committee first considered a trip to Egypt. Five travel companies gave us proposals and we selected Odyssey International, which had previously worked with ILEAD. Because of family connections in Egypt and frequent trips to the area, I was nominated to lead the trip.

Eighty people attended the informational meeting at the Great Room in Kendal! We felt that forty would be the maximum, and forty people placed deposits. Gradually there was some attrition, due, basically, to the downturn in the economy. Twenty-seven very compatible people made the trip and had a fabulous time.



There were three meaty courses for this trip. In spring, 2008, the first course covered 3000 years of ancient Egyptian history. In the fall, the second course covered the next 2000 years. And, in winter, 2009, we studied Contemporary Egypt.

We had an outstanding trip guide, Mr. Tarak Morsy, who was with us for the entire time in Egypt. He took care of all the day-by-day details and arranged for the many extras we enjoyed. Imagine camel rides at the Great Pyramids, sailing on the Nile on picturesque fellucas in Aswan and Luxor, early morning balloon rides in Luxor, extra trips to mosques, the chance to meet the U.S. ambassador to Egypt, and wonderful meals at authentic restaurants. It was clear that Tarak enjoyed our company. He told us he never had a group that was so well-prepared!

Tom Wilson, *Trip Leader*

Class Held at the Enfield Shaker Museum



Mary Boswell, *Museum Director*, left, with class from "The Shakers in New Hampshire".

Photo by Dick Norton

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS



Curriculum

We continue to pull together a richly diverse collection of courses, thanks to so many talented and creative course instructors. Enrollment this spring totaled 726, with 27 regular and 11 mini courses. The popularity of "Glorious Gardens" led Barbara Stern to teach this course in two sections. Examples of our continued diversity included "Food and Eating," which discussed the anthropology of food, and a course that explored Frank Lloyd Wright's buildings and clients. And, timely with our economic woes, students learned the role played by the Federal Reserve. Music, history, literature, religion – we are fortunate to be able to provide this broad spectrum of subjects.

Our fall program is brimming with opportunities as we are offering 55 full and eight mini courses. Here's just a sampling: explore the history of the Northwest Passage, learn about Thirteen Books that changed America, or how to Eat Soup with a Knife.

All available teaching spaces have been overflowing with members and course leaders, as we have three scheduled classes during most days. Lisa continues to work miracles to find teaching spaces as we continue to increase the number of courses offered.

In addition to seeking study leaders, the Curriculum Committee is making a concerted effort to maintain and strengthen the quality of the courses. We are tackling this on a number of fronts. We have redesigned the evaluation form to highlight your comments. We have held a workshop in Dartmouth's DCAL facility to explore newer teaching technologies and methods.

We will continue to mine lessons learned and shared at study leader briefings. And we will continue to provide mentoring and courses on how to give an ILEAD course. We would welcome thoughts from the membership on how we can continue to help improve course quality. Please contact me or any member of the Curriculum Committee.

Again, we express our great appreciation for the excellent spirit and offerings of all our study leaders.

Townsend Swayze, *Chair*

Membership Services



Membership Services Committee invites all who would enjoy preparing food and serving at various ILEAD social functions to join our committee.

We host four scheduled events a year: a New Member/Study Leader cocktail party in September, a Holiday party for study leaders and committee members in December, the Annual Membership Meeting in May, and refreshments at the ILEAD summer program.

There may be special events on an as needed basis. Please contact Lisa at the ILEAD office for more information.

Mary Ann Holbrook, *Chair*

Communications



First, a huge thanks to Pam Ahlen for her years of producing this outstanding newsletter and a warm welcome to our new editor, Janet Schoeler!

The committee has worked on a membership survey to explore the possible increased use of the Internet. The goal was to ascertain the preferences of our members and the extent of their Internet capabilities. Presently approximately 86% of our members have Internet access.

And remember, you can keep up-to-date on ILEAD news and events by checking out our website at www.dartmouth.edu/~ilead. It's a great way to see our course listings, special one-time events and lectures, study and travel tips, the summer program, and more. You can also learn about ILEAD's history, purpose and mission.

Check us out!

Sandra Hoeh, *Chair*



SPECIAL EVENTS

JULY 19: Our annual trip to Saratoga to see the NYC Ballet at their summer home.

AUGUST 9: A sold-out trip, for the second year in a row, to Tanglewood to see YoYoMa.

Possible cruise on Lake Winnepesaukee and lecture on lake conservation, Center Harbor.

Please join us; you'll be glad you did!

Barbara Holmes, *Chair*



Potential Study Leaders at the Dartmouth Center for Advanced Learning

Have a passion? Want to share it with your fellow ILEAD members? Never taught before? We can help. Learn how to organize an ILEAD course. Call the ILEAD office at (603) 653-0154 for more information.



ILEAD

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Canada Lily (*Lilium canadense*) and Black-berried Elder (*Sambucus canadensis*)
Photo by John R Williams along Rte 25 in Plymouth, New Hampshire.

From the Editor

Japanese Death Poetry?

Why would a group of mostly senior citizens take a course on Japanese Death Poetry: the end-life poems of monks, poets, ordinary men and women expressed in three lines of roughly 17 syllables? What was our fascination?

We came to the course with divergent backgrounds. One participant had lived in Japan. Another's father was with the U.S. Navy at Nagasaki. Another's friend has lived in Japan for many years. One participant practices Buddhism. And for others the answer was curiosity, a desire to learn something completely new. Other participants had enjoyed exploring diverse topics with the same study leader. All of us seemed to have a fascination with haiku. And all of us had the willingness to discuss life within the context of death.

The course was so much more than death and dying, so much filled with life: a course that incorporated the perfect combination of verse and conversation, history and religion, creativity and discourse. And to securely hold these threads of experience together we had an experienced study leader in Patricia Norton, who has the remarkable ability to effectively explore a

topic that would take us off the Western path – the very reason why ILEAD is a success and so many of us keep coming back for more. A course such as Japanese Death Poems opens one's mind, enriches one's soul, develops new mind sets and expands one's parameters.

Was this course depressing? Absolutely not! It was filled with life and energy, one of the reasons why I will continue to take ILEAD courses and volunteer in some capacity for the organization which has made such a profound difference in my own life.

Poet: Seiju (Died 1776)
*not even for a moment
do things stand still - witness
color in the trees*

To incoming editor Janet Schoeler . . . I wish you the best. You'll undoubtedly enjoy editing the newsletter, in whatever future form it takes, as much as I have enjoyed doing so for the past eight years.

To all! Have an enjoyable and intellectually stimulating summer.

Pam Ahlen, *Editor*



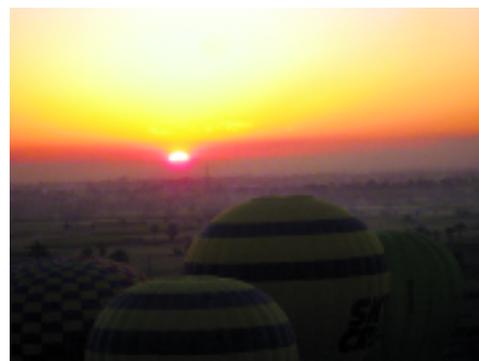
Lisa's Corner



There will be an article about ILEAD in the July/August issue of The Upper Valley Magazine! We were also mentioned in the latest copy of the International Woman's Club (IWC) newsletter.

The ILEAD Feasibility study is now completed. A copy of the 6-page Executive Summary is available as is a copy of the full 70-page report. Both reports are available in PDF Format. Please contact ILEAD if interested. (603) 653-0154

Lisa King, *Program Coordinator*



Balloon enthusiasts know no bounds - Egypt