

ILEAD

Newsletter Winter/Spring 2009

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



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

ILEAD's 18th year is coming to a close. The spring catalogue is out. Behind the attractive cover is an outstanding selection of course offerings, a comment I have heard from many members. Note that members taking more than one course per term is on the rise: 172 in the fall and 124 in the winter terms.

The planning committee continues to be very active, looking at ILEAD's long-term housing needs. Preparations for conduct of a feasibility study to see whether or not ILEAD might be able to raise capital funds to acquire new facilities are nearly complete. Be sure to read the committee's report in this newsletter.

The 2009 Summer Lecture Series is still being developed. Bruce Macdonald has agreed to chair the Series once again, given a great cast of five ILEAD colleagues who will contact speakers and put the program together. The subject will be "The Media," and will begin July 8. There will be a change in venue. The College has advised that Spaulding Auditorium will not be available this summer due to construction in the area, but has worked with the Town of Hanover to make the new Hanover High School auditorium available. Although capacity is limited to 449, this is a wonderful facility and well-suited for our Series needs.

The Annual Meeting to be held at Lake Morey on May 19 will conclude my term as ILEAD President. There are many facets to our program that contribute to ILEAD's overall outstanding quality: full-length courses, mini-courses, special lectures, special events, study travel, and the Summer Lecture Series. My appreciation and thanks to all of you who contribute your time and talent that make ILEAD possible. Since one-third of our committee members are replaced each year, there is opportunity and need for more volunteers.

Last, but not least, thanks to our Program Coordinator, Lisa King, and her Administrative Assistant, Jill Newcity, for their outstanding efforts in managing the ILEAD office.

It has been a privilege and honor to serve as your President.

Carl Larson, *President*

Communication: Check Out Our Website!

WE WANT TO KEEP YOU UP-TO-DATE
ON ILEAD NEWS AND EVENTS!

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*



ANNUAL MEETING
Tuesday, May 19, 2009
Lake Morey Inn

Photo at top by ILEAD member Arnie Levin. Instructor George Angwin, Fall 2008

PLANNING



FEASIBILITY STUDY

As reported in the fall newsletter, the Executive Council approved funding for a Feasibility Study. We have selected Anne Peyton of Yellow Brick Road Consulting to guide us.

The purpose of the Study is to determine whether we have:

- An urgent and compelling case for support
 - Volunteers (council members, ILEAD leadership, members) willing to take on leadership roles in a campaign
 - Donors and probable donors to invest in ILEAD's future
 - Development of infrastructure and resources to support a campaign effort.
- We are in process of creating a list of possible interviewees.

For this purpose, ILEAD's membership over the past several years was examined to identify persons who might meet confidentially with the consultants to review the proposed project and to comment critically on it. More than 90 persons who might be interviewed have been identified; however, the consultant expects to interview about 55.

FACILITIES

The Facilities Requirements Committee (FRC), consisting of Tuck Professor John Vogel and ILEAD member Glen Mayo issued its report on November 10, 2008. The report addressed four issues:

1. How large a facility will ILEAD need?
2. How much will it cost?
3. What is the best option: buy, lease, build?
4. What would such a facility look like?

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THE ILEAD CONNECTION

Walter Mendoza and I met at a lecture in the summer ILEAD program when I accidentally sat beside him. Not one to waste time, he invited me out to lunch. The next week I took him to lunch, and so on, until he finally invited me to a concert – it was a free concert. And afterward he bought me a coke! I was immediately charmed. I realized that I had found a kind man with a wonderful, gentle sense of humor and a high energy level.

Walter was a high school English teacher for over thirty years and had a passion for literary classics.

After he retired to Vermont, he became an active ILEAD member. He always carried index cards in his shirt pocket and took notes in class.

After I moved to New Hampshire, ILEAD became an important part of my life. We would submit our course choices without consulting one another. Then it would be a nice surprise when we had classes at the same time or even together. This was convenient for going out to lunch or dinner in Hanover. We went on ILEAD day trips and even to Quebec City and Ottawa.

I had been a widow for 8 years when I met Walter and my life changed. We went to movies, restaurants, concerts, plays, operas, lectures, and Dartmouth athletic events (but only if Dartmouth was playing Brown). We traveled to New York, Arizona, Paris, South Carolina, Vancouver, and Sicily. We attended reunions of my family and his World War II army buddies.

Even though we lived in different states, Walter and I were a committed couple for 10 years. He died September 10, 2008, at age 82. He suffered from kidney disease and his health was poor the last few years, but he never lost his love of literature and learning. I miss him very much but realize that I was more fortunate than most, and I am grateful to ILEAD for bringing us together.

Virginia Coolidge



*“The song has ended,
but the memory lingers on.”*

When ILEAD classes end after their usual six or eight week terms, many participants want them to continue. In recent years, several classes immediately picked up the traces and continued to meet on a regular basis in convenient locations. Writing courses, poetry, non-fiction, fiction, and memoirs have been in place for a number of years.

One, Joe Medlicott’s “*Remembrance of Things Past*” (a memoir/writing course) formally ended two years ago. Yet a dozen writers still meet to share their work. The success of such courses is due in great measure to the bonding, the camaraderie, established when the initial classes formally ended.



For eight years, Joe has met with a handful of dedicated book-lovers. They call themselves “Medlicott’s Maidens.” Their agenda includes reading and discussing contemporary fiction and non-fiction drawn from current best-sellers and a long list of world classics.

Joe Medlicott, *Study Leader*

Fictional Images of Small-Town New England



Jere Daniell (l) offered a second lecture after the first lecture on December 12, 2008, was de-railed by the ice storm. ILEAD member Harold Ripley (r), who is 101, graciously offered to introduce Jere Daniell. How many people can say they’ve gone to a public event and seen someone 101 introduce the guest lecturer? On December 19 there were about 60 ILEAD members who witnessed both the gracious introduction and the lecture.

Thank you, Jere, for offering a second lecture for those who couldn’t drive through the ice the previous week.

PLANNING, *from page 1*

The FRC proposed three options. All options include adequate parking, smart classrooms and administrative and social space.

Option A, the minimum size facility that the Committee felt might work, contains 8,600 square feet and has five classrooms of varying size.

Option B, with 10,600 square feet, adds two classrooms.

Option C, with 13,500 square feet, provides space for more classrooms or social space.

The option selected will be that which will serve the future needs of ILEAD and for which the Feasibility Study determines adequate funds can be raised. The estimated cost of these options ranges from \$4 million to \$6 million.

It is important to remember that space allocations and costs cited are estimates.

Final decisions will require the services of a professional architect.

The FRC expressed its opinion that “leasing a building is not desirable” because considerable capital would probably be required to fix up leased space and it would be very difficult to raise funds to fix up space that ILEAD does not own. The FRC also cautioned that “the ongoing cost of renting space is likely to greatly increase the annual operating budget and make membership less affordable.”

We have not yet identified a location for ILEAD’s new home. It will be in the Hanover/Lebanon/White River Junction/Norwich area. We are searching both for land for a new building as well as existing properties that might be renovated for ILEAD’s use.

Ann Hargraves, *Chair*

Study/Travel: MesoAmerica

After studying 5,000 years of Maya history during spring and fall, 2008, fourteen intrepid ILEAD travelers set out in November on their much anticipated two-week tour of "Mayaland"—El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Belize.



The four World Heritage Sites: Joya de Cerén in San Salvador known as the Pompeii of the Americas, Copan in Honduras with its most colorful discovery of Temple Rosalila, the City of Antigua, Guatemala--the once proud Spanish capital of Guatemala until its destruction by earthquake in 1700s, Tikal in Guatemala with its four enormously tall pyramids reaching high above the jungle canopy, the New River archaeological site of Lamanai in Belize with its most famous icon--the 12ft high mask at the right side of the huge acropolis that can only be scaled up or down by hanging on to a thick fat rope, were much anticipated as well as the unforgettable archaeological site of Yaxha in Guatemala close to the Belize border.

But one could almost say that all this once opulent grandeur of the lost Maya kingdoms paled in the face of the bad fortunes, hardships, massacres, slave labor

tactics, sheer perseverance and utterly indestructible nature of the present-day Maya people. In Guatemala alone over 60 percent of the population is of Maya origin. Their present-day life and culture was brought close to our hearts with visits to their vibrant village life.

We also had our own fun, some of it totally free, like the bird life and other wild creatures on the way and on the New River, swimming in the hotel pools, town walks, and an adventurous



zip-line experience above the canopy of the jungle.

One of the most moving moments happened on the boat in the middle of Lake Atitlan, surrounded by volcanoes, in the Highlands of Guatemala, when the engine was switched off and we all observed a few minutes of silence honoring the Maya spirit of survival. The group unanimously voted this the best tour they have ever taken.

Inge Brown was the discussion and travel group leader. Carlos Vivar was the tour director for Overseas Adventure Travel.

Inge Brown, Trip Leader



CURRICULUM

All is well! Sixty percent of ILEAD's membership (1230) participated in fall 2008 classes. Taking into account people who had enrolled in more than one course, enrollment numbers reached 900. Of these, 685 students got their first choice.

During our fall evaluation briefing, some student comments included:

POSITIVE

- Background knowledge of the study leaders
- Well-organized classes
- Interesting outside speakers
- Excellent discussions
- Study leader's attitude and sense of humor
- Excellent course-related field trips

NOT-SO-POSITIVE

- Participants who monopolize class discussion
- Course expenses not fully understood at the outset
- Afternoon course times difficult for concentration
- The need for study leaders to speak clearly and slowly
- The need for speakers to relax and talk, rather than read their material
- Continuing space problems
- Presentation of controversial material in a balanced manner

Recommendations included more opportunities for study leaders to meet and discuss their experiences and to program for a longer break during the first meeting so people can get to know each other.

We have over 700 students enrolled in the winter term program compared to 561 last winter. There are 38 full and mini courses being offered this year compared to 35 last year.

We give enormous thanks for so many who volunteer time and knowledge, and a warm welcome to new study leaders and course participants.

Townsend Swayze, Chair

Special Events

ILEAD members took a December 14th trip to Manchester, NH, to the Verizon Wireless Arena, hearing Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Christmas Show.

Tops on the list for 2009 is our annual trip to Tanglewood, Sunday, August 9th. Yo-Yo Ma will be the featured performer and we expect this trip to sell out.

We are planning a trip to the Boston Ballet on May 16th, and our annual trip to Saratoga in July for the NYC Ballet.

We always welcome new ideas.

Barbara Holmes, Chair

ILEAD

Institute for Lifelong Education At Dartmouth

10 HILTON FIELD ROAD
HANOVER, NH 03755

Sunset by Hank Buermeyer

LITURGY

*Each visit she tells the doctor
I have this numbness in my feet.
My handwriting is different
and the doctor listens, nods,
says that can happen sometimes.*

*Their exchange becomes a canticle
acknowledging the parting
of the old ways
of the fingers
and the toes*

*chanting the beginning
of the leaving,
Kyrie Eleison
valediction.*

Susan Norris,
ILEAD Member



From the Editor



Several newsletters ago I included a small story written by ILEAD member and retired Miami judge Barbara Levenson. ILEAD received news from Maryglenn McCombs that Barbara's debut novel *Fatal February* is due to be released by Oceanview Publishing in February.

I truly appreciate these kinds of news items because it is the stuff of what makes ILEAD so remarkable. During the past eight years I have been pleased to write interviews and publish the creative writing of our multi-talented membership. It is inspiring to know men and women who not only had remarkable careers, but who now have the desire to develop yet other aspects of their lives.

We are a diverse and exceptionally talented group of people rich in experience, interests and talents of news-worthy interest to the rest of us. Please feel free to send your thoughts and comments, observations and news items to the ILEAD office. We would love to hear from all of you.

Pam Ahlen, Editor

Lisa's Corner

We need volunteers!

ILEAD is an all volunteer-based organization and needs your help. Have a voice and take part in what courses are presented, what day trips are offered, what foreign adventures ILEAD will take, and make sure ILEAD'S finances are in "check and balance." Call the office and we can answer any questions you have about volunteering.



Lisa King, Program Coordinator
(603) 653-0154

SAVE THESE DATES

ANNUAL MEETING: May 19
Lake Morey Inn

BOSTON BALLET: May 16
SARATOGA BALLET: July
Performance to be chosen

TANGLEWOOD: August 9
Yo-Yo Ma