



# The Learning Times

A Publication of Learning in Retirement

## A Message from the President

### SPRING IS HERE

As spring is arriving in Central Missouri with new life – so we sense a renewed direction of our lives as the pandemic is showing signs of slowing with more and more folks receiving the vaccinations. With this in mind, we want you to know that LIR is working on ways to re-open with new course offerings and trips – along with our clubs starting up again.

The Curriculum Committee and Travel Committee have had success in the offerings they have presented this spring, and the clubs are also discovering ways they can meet safely with more folks receiving the vaccine. Be sure to check out our course, travel, and club offerings and get involved with many great opportunities that lie ahead for LIR.

We also need your help to encourage former members (who have dropped out due to covid) to join again and new members to join for the first time. The late spring, summer, and fall offerings look very good as we transition into a more “normal” way of operation. And remember, too, this year the membership fee to join is only \$20 per person.

I want to thank each of you as members and those who serve in various ways for your dedication to LIR during this past year while our operations had to be altered due to the pandemic! You have stayed the course with us, and we thank you for that as we need each and every one of you to help our organization succeed!

The bottom line - like tulips in spring opening up and blooming again - so is LIR - with the hope of even having our July general membership meeting. Stayed tuned, and we will make a formal announcement regarding the July membership meeting in our summer newsletter that will be coming out in June or early July!

Respectfully yours,

Stephen Buchholz, President

### Know B4 You Go:

#### Travel Sneak Preview

Put **1:00 p.m., June 2**, on your calendar now if you'd like to find out what travel adventures are being planned for the fall/winter of **2021!** We're excited to invite you to a **Know B4UGo** event this year after having had to cancel the two previous meetings.

This event will be held at the outdoor North Jefferson Pavilion in Holts Summit. So, take a short trip across the Missouri River Bridge, take the first exit (W-Airport), turn left over the highway, and then take the first right. The pavilion is covered but with open sides. We'll be there rain or shine, so dress accordingly! The trip escorts will present full descriptions of each trip from August through December, including dates and costs. Non-members are welcome to come and see what's offered.

*REMEMBER: This is for your information only. Registration takes place after the summer newsletter comes out.*

#### Current Trips

We have some openings for morning Miniature Golf at Turkey Creek Center in Holts Summit, May 19. This includes miniature golf, a yummy chicken lunch, and a tour of the Capital Bluffs Event Center for just \$20. Please call the LIR office if you'd like to join us!

The remaining Spring/Summer trips are full at this time. If you are on the Wait List for a particular trip, you will be called if a vacancy arises, and you may then have the opportunity to go! We'll contact you as soon as we can. If you have questions about where you are on the Wait List, please call the office. (573-681-6152)

**Traveling with LIR****2021 Fall/Winter**

Looking ahead, your LIR Travel Committee is planning some fun, educational opportunities for August-December. We will continue offering some “drive yourself” trips to local venues that feature shorter time frames. We are also adding some day trips that require coach transportation.

**Drive Yourself**

HEMP: Missouri’s Newest Old Crop, Lincoln University George Washington Carver Farm, August 4  
Military Museum at National Guard, August 12

Nature’s Fall Splendor, Prairie Garden Trust, September 22 & 23  
*A Christmas Story*, Capital City Productions, December 11

**1-Day Coach Trips**

Springfield Cardinals Baseball, August 22\*  
*Singin’ In The Rain*, Arrow Rock Lyceum Theater, September 9\*  
Small Town Washington, MO, September 28  
Lemp Mansion, St. Louis, October 5  
A Leisurely Day in Small Town New Haven, MO, October 21  
Missouri Rhineland Stained Glass, Hermann & vicinity, November 9

\*These trips are tentative as the venues have not made final details available at this time.

Coach trips will follow LIR COVID precautions. That includes wearing a mask and a temperature check before boarding. We will also have hand sanitizer available and limit coach capacity to 40. We are looking at other procedures to keep our members as safe as possible.

**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Your Curriculum Committee has been working diligently for the last two months to bring you classes that are timely, of interest, and/or just plain fun. The following are four-week paid classes that we are certain to offer next semester.

On Wednesday afternoons in August, we will be showing “Movies starring Sydney Poitier.” This includes “To Sir with Love,” “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner,” and “Lilies of the Field.”

In September, Sharon Hanson, an author from Columbia, will present “Show-Me” Women: a workshop highlighting women notable to Missouri culture. Also in September, author Betty Cooper will present a four-week workshop based on her book “Family - Vital to Us and Society.”

In October, explore with us “The Sun and Me.” Worshiped by the ancients and a significant part of the universe, the sun plays a pivotal role in our lives. Our skin, eyes, mental health, energy, and food are all affected by the sun.

Other four-week paid classes include “Adaptations Post COVID in Jefferson City/Cole County” and “Technology Serving Seniors,” which will discuss how the rate at which seniors are adopting technology is exciting, especially considering the ways it can help maintain their total health and welfare. Tools like smart phones, social media, and home automation can help us stay connected, remain independent, and be safe.

Our one-session free classes will include “Missouri Authors” presented by members of the LIR Book Club. Also, we will have a class and tour of “Building Community Bridges,” which is a nonprofit program to overcome tribulations. BCB offers classes such as photography, sewing, cooking, dancing, boxing, and fashion, and other resources include a food pantry, self-help, and networking opportunities for people. The thrill of collecting something fascinating often leads to in-depth research with intriguing results. Dr. Greg Renner discovered three families in Jefferson City who became well-known countrywide for duck decoys. He found that other Missouri businesses also became providers. He will share his research and his collection with us at “Overlooked Treasure--Duck Decoys of Missouri.”

Mark Schreiber will present “Influence of the Penitentiary on Jefferson City,” discussing how the prison played a vital role in Jefferson City’s economy and some of the influential people at the time.

LIR member Chuck Lahmeyer will present “Pop” Physics (a sort of ‘dummies guide to physics’ with a ‘stump the professor included’).

To celebrate Country Music Month (established under the Nixon administration), Wes Duncan, a prize-winning Missouri performing artist, will give an entertaining presentation combining his music with the story of country music.

Possible classes still in the planning stages include a course about “The Trail of Tears in Missouri,” another music session by Dr. Allison Robbins, and a presentation about “Strokes: Symptoms, Diagnoses, Treatment and Rehabilitation.”

The Curriculum Committee is also constantly evaluating the pros and cons for our meeting places. As our classes become larger, choices for meeting spaces become more limited.

Thank you for your patience and your input is always valued.

The newsletter editor would like help with the newsletter, so if you are proficient with Microsoft Publisher, please call the LIR office at 573-681-6152.

The LIR Office will be closed May 31 for Memorial Day and July 5 for the Independence Day holiday.