

Special Events

S23-021, Spring Kick-Off Social

January 18, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Location: Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas, Va. 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 150

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: LLI President Ann Cain, and members

Description: Registration is Not required for this event. Just come join us.

Invite prospective members to attend.

Learn about LLI's various clubs.

Meet class coordinators. Hear about upcoming classes.

Participate in drawings for door prizes.

Receive help with membership and/or class registration. Cash or checks, only. No credit cards.

Enjoy cookies and other light snacks.

Join us for this social time to meet new and returning LLI members.

Biography: n/a

LLI Coordinator: Karla Anzzolin

S23-022, New Member Orientation

January 20, 2023, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Trinity Episcopal Church, 9325 West St., Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 80

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Facilitators: Dar Miklosovitch, Linda Whitehead

Description: This class is for new and veteran LLI members who would like to learn more about the history and operation of our organization. New Members will discover what LLI can offer them, including opportunities for socialization, volunteering and learning. The class will include an introduction to the three clubs (Mah Jongg, Book Club and Lunch Club) and demonstrations on how to use the LLI website and calendar and how to register for classes online. We encourage our veteran LLI members to help welcome the new members and become informed about current opportunities for a richer experience. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

Biography: n/a

LLI Coordinator: Dar Mikolosovitch, Linda Whitehead

S23-023, Annual Membership Business Meeting and Luncheon

April 19, 2023, 10:45 am to 02:00 pm

Location: Regency Clubhouse

15351 Championship Drive

Haymarket, Va 20169 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 120

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: LLI President, Ann Cain

Description: Sign-in begins at 10:45 a.m.

The business meeting starts at 11:15 a.m.

The complimentary luncheon (for registered members only) begins at 12:00 p.m..

At the luncheon, LLI-Manassas will recognize our 20th anniversary as an organization (2003-2023).

The last date to sign up is March 27.

For information, contact Karla Anzzolin. Click on Email a question to a coordinator below.

Biography: n/a

LLI Coordinator: Karla Anzzolin

LLI and Hylton Performing Arts Center Partnership

S23-031, Terrance Simien & the Zydeco Experience

February 23, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Location: Jacquemin Family Foundation Rehearsal Hall, Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas, Va 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 150

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Terrance Simien

Description: Zydeco music evolved among French Creole speakers in southwest Louisiana. It blends blues, rhythm and blues, and music indigenous to the Louisiana Creoles and the Native American people of Louisiana.

Participants in this class will meet two-time GRAMMY® award-winning artist Terrance Simien and the members of his group, learning about their backgrounds and how they came to perform zydeco music. Terrance will lead a discussion on the history of this Black roots music genre and will demonstrate some of the instruments that make up the Zydeco Experience band. He will explain the multiculturalism of Louisiana Creoles, while providing an understanding of his dynamic culture and how it has influenced his music.

Performance: Terrence Simien & the Zydeco Experience

Saturday, February 25 at 5:30 and 8 p.m.

Tickets: \$30

Biography: For nearly 40 years, two-time GRAMMY award winning, Terrance Simien, has been shattering the myths and often misinformation, about what his indigenous Zydeco roots music **is** – and **is not**. It most certainly is American roots music and it **is** music born of the black and mixed race French speaking **Creoles** of South Louisiana.

Simien leads a highly skilled Zydeco Experience band with long time member and creative collaborator **Danny Williams (30+ years, two-GRAMMY award winning)**, keyboards; **Stan Chambers (10+ years, GRAMMY award winning)**, bass; **Ian Molinaro – Thompson**, drums; **and our newest** members, **Revon Andrews**, trombone and **Orlando Gilbert**, saxophone.

Simien and his band mates have performed over 10,000 concerts to over 45 countries during their eventful career. Their music can be heard in multiple theatre release films, including a Disney film, TV and radio commercials. They've shared studio and stage with legends the Meters, Art Neville, Los Lobos, Marcia Ball, the late Robert Palmer and Dave Matthews Band to name a few. They've been cultural ambassadors for their country since the mid 1980's as part of the U.S. State Department ongoing cultural diplomacy tours. They performed in Ukraine twice with the U.S. Embassy in Kiev and toured Russia for 2 weeks in 2015.

LLI Coordinator: Valerie Kenyon Gaffney

S23-032, Manassas Ballet Theatre

February 24, 2023, 01:30 pm to 02:30 pm

Location: Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas, Va 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 150

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Amy Grant Wolfe

Description: In a presentation focusing on the upcoming "La Boutique Fantasque & More!" performance, MBT Artistic Director Amy Grant Wolfe will discuss the decision process regarding what to perform and the creative process of pulling all the artistic elements (music, choreography, costumes, staging, lights, dancer selection, etc.) into the finished product.

Performance: Manassas Ballet Theatre: "La Boutique Fantasque & More!"

Friday, Mar. 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Mar. 11 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Mar. 12 at 3 p.m.

Tickets: \$65, \$55, \$45, \$35, \$25

Use CODE LLI20 for LLI's 20% discount.

Biography: Amy Grant Wolfe has a bachelor's degree in theater from Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio and a master's in dance from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. As a professional dancer, Ms. Wolfe was a soloist with Ballet Dallas, Ballet Midland, Irving Ballet, Richardson Ballet, Dallas Metropolitan Ballet, Southwest Dance Collective, and Berea Summer Theatre. After moving to Manassas in 1990, Ms. Wolfe became a teacher at the Manassas School of Dance (now MBA) and a principal dancer with Manassas Dance Company (now MBT). In 1997, Ms. Wolfe became associate director of MBT and helped lead the expansion of the Company into a professional ballet company. In 1999, she became artistic director of Manassas Ballet Theatre. In 2008, Ms. Wolfe was presented with the Seefeldt Pioneer Award for Arts Excellence by the Prince William County Park Authority Arts Council for her contributions to the area's art community. Under her leadership, MBT has become the largest performing arts organization in Northern Virginia.

LLI Coordinator: Valerie Kenyon Gaffney

S23-033, Mark Morris Dance Group

February 10, 2023, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Jacquemin Family Foundation Rehearsal Hall of the Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas, Va. 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 150

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Brandon Cournay and Billy Smith

Description: Founded in New York City in 1980 by artistic director and choreographer Mark Morris, the Mark Morris Dance Group (MMDG) has been called "the preeminent modern dance organization of our time" (Yo-Yo Ma), its members receiving "highest praise for their technical aplomb, their musicality, and their sheer human authenticity." (*Bloomberg News*). Join members of the company for a class about the Mark Morris Dance Group

and their critically-acclaimed production *Pepperland*, which will be performed as part of the Hylton Presents series on Saturday, February 11. This class will include some movement for those who wish to participate as well, so comfortable clothing is recommended.

Interested in a deeper dive into Mark Morris and the Company? <https://markmorrisdancegroup.org>

Performance: The Mark Morris Dance Group, featuring The MMDG Ensemble in *Pepperland*

Saturday, February 11, 8:00 p.m.

Tickets: Prices: \$55, \$47, \$33, half-price for youth through Grade 12; use CODE LLI20 for LLI's 20% discount

Biography:

Brandon Courney is originally from Walled Lake, Michigan, and received his bachelor's degree from The Juilliard School. As a freelance artist, he has performed with the Radio City Christmas Spectacular, the Mark Morris Dance Group, Morphoses, The Metropolitan Opera, New York Theatre Ballet, The Chase Brock Experience, Schoen Movement Company, Dance Heginbotham, and KEIGWIN + COMPANY. TV/film/industrial credits include PBS' Great Performances, Musical Chairs (HBO), Puma, Sesame Street, and Target. As an educator and répétiteur, he has worked with The Pennsylvania Ballet, Whim W'Him, The Juilliard School/Nord Anglia Education, and universities nationwide. Offstage, he has worked with companies in multiple capacities from artistic direction to administrative management. For many years, he was the rehearsal director and associate artistic director of KEIGWIN + COMPANY. In addition, he has assisted numerous choreographers on creative projects in theatre, film, and dance. He joined MMDG as a company member in 2018.

Billy Smith grew up in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and attended George Mason University under a full academic and dance talent scholarship. He graduated magna cum laude in 2007 and received achievement awards in performance, choreography, and academic endeavors. While at GMU he performed the works of Mark Morris, Paul Taylor, Lar Lubovitch, Doug Varone, Daniel Ezralow, Larry Keigwin, Susan Marshall, and Susan Shields. Smith's own piece, "3-Way Stop," was selected to open the 2006 American College Dance Festival Gala at Ohio State University, and his original choreography for a production of *Bye Bye Birdie* garnered much critical praise. An actor as well, Smith's regional theater credits include Tulsa in *Gypsy*, Mistoffelees in *CATS*, and Dream Curly in *Oklahoma!* Smith danced with Parsons Dance from 2007-2010. He joined MMDG as a company member in 2010.

LLI Coordinator: Valerie Kenyon Gaffney

Arts & Literature

S23-041, The Life and Work of Leonardo da Vinci

January 26, 2023, 02:00 pm to 03:30 pm

Location: Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas, Va. 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 150

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Dr. Jeanette Nicewinter

Description: Leonardo da Vinci was an Italian painter, draftsman, sculptor, architect, and engineer whose skill and intelligence, perhaps more than that of any other figure, epitomized the Renaissance. His Last Supper and Mona Lisa are among the most famous paintings of the Renaissance, and indeed of all time. His notebooks show an interest in scientific inquiry and a mechanical inventiveness that were centuries ahead of their time. This talk will discuss his amazing career.

Biography: Dr. Jeanette Nicewinter is an associate professor of art history at Northern Virginia Community College's Annandale Campus. She also teaches one course per semester at American University. She earned her doctorate in art historical studies from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2016. Her area of specialization is ancient American art with a focus on ceramics from the northern highlands of present-day Peru. However, she frequently identifies as a "generalist" and enjoys teaching a broad spectrum of art-historical topics. She has given presentations for the Manassas LLI during each of our last five semesters.

LLI Coordinator: David Pace

S23-042, Exploring the Great American Songbook: The Hot Lanes with Bobby Jasinski

May 11, 2023, 07:30 pm to 09:00 pm

Location: Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas, Va 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 150

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: The Hot Lanes with Bobby Jasinski

Description: Please join The Hot Lanes with Bobby Jasinski as they explore the Great American Songbook featuring original arrangements of well-known pieces by many great American composers, such as Duke Ellington, George Gershwin, Richard Rodgers, Eubie Blake, Jerome Kern and Hoagy Carmichael.

Biography: Bobby Jasinski, a native of New York City, started piano at age five. A composer and arranger, Bobby currently is a member of the BMI Jazz Composers Workshop in Manhattan. He has appeared at the Kennedy Center, the Swedish and French embassies, the World Bank, National Press Club and Strathmore. Outside the area, Bobby has made appearances in Australia, London, Barcelona, and Rome.

Bobby's latest album, "Spectrum", won a 2021 Washington-area Grammy (Wammie) for Best Jazz Album and Bobby took home the 2021 Wammie honors of Best Jazz Artist. Throughout the last decade or so, Bobby has promoted benefit concerts, in which proceeds from these gatherings and from his album sales are donated to Haiti's Food for the Poor campaign, an organization with which Bobby and his church have a close affiliation. The Hot Lanes, a 16-piece Big Band, is comprised of diverse and talented musicians who promote all decades of music and seek to educate the local community in jazz. This band is a culmination of a dream Bobby Jasinski had in 2014. Influenced by Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Bobby's focus of The Hot Lanes is to promote jazz in the D.C. metropolitan area through festivals, concerts, educational masterclasses in the public school system and other appearances.

You can see the Hot Lanes in social media:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChFOSATntrNeQmHcikjKHJw>

<https://www.facebook.com/thehotlanes>

Their music albums will be available for purchase at the LLI session or via this web-site:

<https://www.amazon.com/Spectrum-Bobby-Jasinski/dp/B084LZMYWG>

LLI Coordinator: David Pace

S23-043, Author! Author! It's Never Too Late to Write Your Masterpiece.

February 20, 2023, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Trinity Episcopal Church, 9325 West St., Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 150

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: John Adam Wasowicz

Description: Have you thought about putting pen to paper—or keyboard to screen—and writing your masterpiece? Whether it's a work of fiction or non-fiction, a family history or a personal memoir, a mystery or a romance, historical fiction or a biography, the time to start is now! John Wasowicz, an attorney, wrote his first book of fiction when the youngest of his three children had graduated from college and he was turning 65. That book (*Daingerfield Island*) was not a "one and done" but, rather, the beginning of the Old Town mystery series, which currently includes five books. John will talk about the benefits of pursuing an artistic venture being as important as physical exercise and a good diet, particularly for active seniors. He will share his successes and failures in writing and publishing, including the pros and cons of self publishing and the benefits and drawbacks of complementing your written work with an audiobook.

Biography: John Adam Wasowicz is an attorney and the author of five *Old Town* mysteries, including the recently released *Gadsby's Corner*, a CLUE-like mystery that unfolds at Gadsby's Tavern in Old Town Alexandria. The other four books in the *Old Town* Mysteries are: *Daingerfield Island*, *Slaters Lane*, *Roaches Run*, and *Jones Point*. John will bring his books to sell following his presentation.

LLI Coordinator: Nancy Osborne

S23-044, The Pillars of Storytelling Through the Written Word

March 24, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Location: Bethel Lutheran Church, 8712 Plantation Lane, Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 100

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: S.C. Megale (Shea)

Description: Learn the most critical skills of fiction writing. Class covers four pillars: characterization, plot, scene, and style. What makes a great story great? This is everything you need to get started on writing your novel or short story in one crash course.

Biography: S.C. Megale (Shea) is a traditionally published author. Born in 1995, Megale's short life already includes adventures such as meeting the Pope, directing an award-winning short film in the Czech Republic, becoming a religious minister and marriage officiant, helping others through mental health, addiction, and prison advocacy, and beekeeping as a Master Naturalist. Megale graduated *cum laude* from the University of Virginia and is currently a dual master's student in history and foreign service at Georgetown University. To learn more, please visit www.scmegale.com

LLI Coordinator: Nancy Osborne

S23-045, How to Opera: Overtures, Arias, and Recitatives

May 12, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Location: Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas, Va 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 150

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Sheyna Burt

Description: "Opera is when a guy gets stabbed in the back and instead of bleeding, he sings." ~ Robert Benchley. In this lecture, participants will learn "How to Opera," that is, how to listen to, talk about, and enjoy this beloved art

form. Giving the learners a head start on the pieces slated for the May 14 concert, this class will explore the composers on the program, the context in which their masterworks were written, and how to listen actively. Performance: Old Bridge Chamber Orchestra Presents "How to Opera: Overtures, Arias, and Recitatives" Sunday, May 14, 2023, at 3:00 PM. Tickets: \$15. Use CODE LLI20 for LLI's 20% discount.

Biography: Sheyna Burt graduated with honors from The College of William and Mary, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts with a Double Concentration in Music and History before receiving her Juris Doctor from the College's Marshall-Wythe School of Law. She is the owner of The Law Office of Sheyna Nicole Burt, PLC, and when she's not representing clients, she is active as a violinist and a serial volunteer with local non-profit arts organizations. Sheyna is Chair of the Executive Board of the Hylton Performing Arts Center and president of Old Bridge Chamber Orchestra and Youth Orchestras of Prince William.

LLI Coordinator: Valerie Kenyon Gaffney

S23-046, On the Brink: A Writing Workshop

March 6, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:30 pm

Additional dates: Mar 13, Mar 20, Mar 27, Apr 3, Apr 10, Apr 17, Apr 24

Location: Bethel Lutheran Church, 8712 Plantation Lane, Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 20

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Mary Winsky

Description: We are always on the brink of something. What we love about LLI is that brink is learning something new. What we love about writing is that it is a tool and a practice for discovering, deepening and developing that learning into personal meaning and significance.

This semester we will learn from Parker J. Palmer's *On the Brink of Everything: Grace, Gravity and Getting Old* and use our writing to explore its wisdom – and our own.

You will choose your topics and form as we discuss and push off this reading into writing.

Please buy a copy of the book and read through page 30, so we will have food for thought to put to use in our first class. Each session will explore the at-home reading through discussion and short writes; then we will wind up with writing and sharing a longer write of choice.

Biography: Mary Winsky will facilitate as she has learned to do from writers of all ages and stages in her many years as teacher and fellow writer.

LLI Coordinator: Elizabeth Crawford

Current Events

S23-051, Great Decisions 2023, Part 1

May 4, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Additional dates: May 11, May 18, May 25

Location: Bethel Lutheran Church, 8712 Plantation Lane, Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 80

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Dan Leahy

Description: Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the *Great Decisions Briefing Book*, watching the documentary film series and meeting in a Discussion Group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. Part 1 of the 2023 program will discuss the following topics: Energy Geopolitics, War Crimes, Economic Warfare, and Global Famine.

Biography: Dan Leahy is a retired federal government employee with over 30 years of public service in the area of international trade. Dan is a longtime member of LLI and has taught the Current Events Discussions and Great Decisions classes for many years. He is a past president of LLI and currently is a member of the program committee.

LLI Coordinator: Dan Leahy

S23-052, Children's Literature in America's Cultural Wars

May 17, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Location: Bethel Lutheran Church, 8712 Plantation Lane, Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 100

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Dr. Robert "Bob" Otten

Description: In 2022 there were more protests against certain children's books and more public confrontations between opposing sides in any year since the American Library Association began tracking efforts to ban books from libraries, school curricula and bookstores. The majority of protests focused on books which addressed issues of sexuality, gender identity, and American traditions. These confrontations were often dramatic: disruption of library board or school board meetings, boycotts and protest marches, social media campaigns against titles, authors, government units, and elected/appointed officials.

This program explores the roots of these conflicts: conflicting adult expectations of why and how children should read, the role of civic institutions (school and libraries) as a complement to the parental role in book selection, and the confusion between the ideas of childhood ignorance and childhood innocence. Paradoxically, the numerous campaigns against certain books and topics occur during a “golden age” in Children’s Literature in which the quality of texts and illustrations has never been greater.

Biography: Robert ‘Bob’ Otten has a Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of Notre Dame. He recently retired after 50 years of teaching and administration at both the secondary and university levels. Since 1985 his research focus has been Children’s Literature, focusing on the evolution of adults’ ideas about childhood and how changes in the definition of a “child” has affected the way books for children are written, published and marketed. Bob has lived in Manassas since 1986. His current project is a book that describes certain children’s books as forming a “wisdom literature” about universal human values.

LLI Coordinator: Karen Waltman

S23-053, An Insider’s Tour of Virginia’s Judicial System

April 28, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Location: Prince William Count Courthouse, 9300 Lee Avenue, Manassas, VA 20111 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 126

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Judge Craig Johnston

Description: In this presentation Judge Craig Johnston will take you on a tour of the inner workings of Virginia’s judicial system. As a former General District Court judge and semi-retired Circuit Court judge, and as the author of a treatise analyzing the results of hundreds of appeals to Virginia’s higher courts, he is in a unique position to tell you how courts at every level actually work and how judges actually handle and decide cases, from the lowest level of courts to the Supreme Court of Virginia.

Biography: Judge Craig Johnston is a semi-retired circuit court judge for Prince William County. He served as a circuit court Judge for many years, including being Chief Judge of the Court. Prior to becoming a judge, he practiced law in Manassas for 30 years. He has served as president of a variety of civic organizations, including both of the Manassas Rotary Clubs, the local chapter of the Red Cross, a handicapped workshop, and on the boards of other civic organizations. He is the author of a treatise on Virginia trial procedure and Rules of Evidence in Virginia courts. He updates this *Trial Handbook for Virginia Lawyers* annually. Since retiring in 2018, he has continued to sit as a judge when requested to do so and serves as a mediator. In his free time, he enjoys tennis, golf, reading, traveling, and attending (and presenting) LLI classes.

LLI Coordinator: Craig Johnston

S23-054, Judge Jarvis Returns: Continued Discussion of Current Issues in the Law and the Judicial System

March 31, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:30 pm

Location: Circuit Courtroom 4, 3d floor, Prince William Count Courthouse, 9300 Lee Avenue, Manassas, VA 20111 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 126

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Judge William Jarvis

Description: Judge Jarvis returns by popular demand to continue his discussion of topics currently at the forefront of the judicial system. All who have attended his earlier presentations have enjoyed them, as well as the opportunity to ask him questions that they have about current events in the legal system.

Biography: Honorable William Jarvis, Judge of the General District Court, graduated from Old Dominion University in 1985 with bachelor’s degrees in philosophy and criminal justice. After graduate work at the University of Virginia, he attended George Mason University School of Law, graduating in 1991. He served as a prosecutor in Pittsylvania County, Virginia from 1992 to 1998, and in Marion County, Florida from 1998 to 2002. Upon returning to Virginia in 2002, he served as an assistant commonwealth’s attorney in Prince William County until 2012, when he was elected to the bench. He has taught search and seizure law as well as other topics to police, attorneys, and other judges throughout his career.

LLI Coordinator: Craig Johnston

Experience Buffet

S23-061, The Alps, the Glacier Express, and the Oberammergau Passion Play—a Photo Travelogue

January 26, 2023, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas, Va. 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 150

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: David Pace

Description: The Alps are the highest and most extensive mountain range which lies entirely within Europe, stretching across seven countries. David and Mary Pace recently took a trip through four of those countries,

starting in Northern Italy, then touring the Swiss Alps on the Glacier Express train, and continuing through Austria, and Southern Germany. Their trip included seeing the once-per-decade Passion Play in Oberammergau. In this photo travelogue, David Pace will share their experiences in these beautiful Alpine lands.

Biography: David and Mary Pace are seasoned travelers, having visited 77 countries and all but one continent (Antarctica). Their love of travel began when David was stationed in Germany for three years in the US Air Force. Mary holds a bachelor's degree in art from San Diego State University and a master's degree in education from the University of Virginia, and David holds a bachelor's degree in math from the University of Virginia and a master's degree in astronomy from San Diego State University. In addition, David is a retired USAF officer and meteorologist, a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society, and has had stints in the private sector and at the Federal Aviation Administration. Both David and Mary recently appeared as advertising models for Richfield Living and David has also made appearances as a background extra in various TV shows and movies. David is currently the LLI-Manassas webmaster.

LLI Coordinator: David Pace

S23-062, Exploring the Canadian Maritimes

March 16, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Location: Bethel Lutheran Church, 8712 Plantation Lane, Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 100

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Mike Ahern

Description: The Canadian Maritime provinces — New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island — comprise a region of jagged coastlines, picturesque bays, towering cliffs, and legends of shipbuilders and seafarers. The region is rich in history, from the first-nation Mi'kmaq culture to the 18th-century struggle between England and France for control of North America. It is home to UNESCO World Heritage sites such as the old seaport of Lunenburg, the spectacular Cabot Trail, and the tidal wonders of the Bay of Fundy and Hopewell Rocks. In this class, Mike Ahern will share scenic, historical, and cultural highlights from his recent Road Scholar exploration of Canada's "ocean playground."

Biography: Mike Ahern holds bachelor's and master's degrees in chemistry and served 26 years in the US Army. He has taught at the US Military Academy at West Point, 12 years with Prince William County Schools, and as an adjunct for George Mason University's College of Education. He is a former Washington Post Teacher of the Year for Prince William County Schools. He is a former president of LLI-Manassas and has taught many classes for LLI.

LLI Coordinator: Mike Ahern

S23-063, A Greenhorn in Red China

April 5, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Location: Bethel Lutheran Church, 8712 Plantation Lane, Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 100

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Helen Louise Noyes

Description: In 1982, Louise spent a month in China with just one colleague, visiting ten cities to assess the evolution of China's centrally-planned economy to a system more open to entrepreneurship. This was six years after then-Premier Deng Xiao-ping began moving the behemoth state-enterprise system away from Maoism. To add to the excitement of exploring places only recently opened to Westerners, this was Louise's very first trip abroad, and not a little scary. In this presentation, she will share her observations about an era now long-gone—what she saw, experienced, and photographed.

Biography: Louise Noyes spent her early years in Seattle, Washington, and in the foothills of the Cascade Range. A graduate of the University of Washington, she spent 36 years in positions of increasing responsibility in the Intelligence Community, responsible for economic analyses of China and Russia and for politico-military issues in the Middle East. Along the way, she picked up a business degree, post-graduate studies in economics, and some proficiency in German, Russian, and Chinese. Her husband of 47 years passed away in mid-2019, and now she's very busy trying to figure out what she wants to be when she grows up.

Louise presented the Fall 2022 class, What's Stopping You? Moving Past Life's Obstacles.

LLI Coordinator: Karen Waltman

Health & Fitness

S23-071, Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)

March 8, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Location: Bethel Lutheran Church, 8712 Plantation Lane, Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 100

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Dr. Aaron Sachs

Description: Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)

Dr. Aaron Sachs will tell us of the new advances that are being used to treat GERD and explain why the flexible endoscopy is so important in the treatment of this condition.

He will also discuss bariatrics—a reduction of adipose tissue for treatment of obesity.

Biography: Dr Aaron Sachs is a board-certified, fellowship trained surgeon, specializing in reflux, bariatrics, and flexible endoscopy, He received his medical degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Dr. Sachs is the medical director for the Comprehensive Reflux Program at UVA Health Haymarket Medical Center.

LLI Coordinator: Kelly Espy

History

S23-081, The Forgotten Union Commander Who Almost Won the First Battle of Bull Run, Irvin McDowell

February 9, 2023, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas, Va. 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 150

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Gene Schmiel

Description: Union General Irvin McDowell was a major actor in the Civil War for a short, but critical time. At the First Battle of Bull Run, this Ohio-born general commanded the largest army in American history to that time. He was a dutiful, dependable, and diligent military officer. But in hindsight he may have been called upon to perform duties which were beyond his capacity and which served to enhance his peculiarities, including impulsiveness. Dr. Schmiel's book, *Searching for Irvin McDowell, Forgotten Civil War General*, is the first full-length biography of McDowell, and it builds the bridge to understanding McDowell and his role in the Civil War era. Signed copies of the book will be available for purchase at the LLI session or via this web-site:

<https://www.amazon.com/-/e/B00HV4SSWK>

Biography: Gene Schmiel is a retired U.S. Department of State Foreign Service Officer who also was an Assistant Professor of History at St. Francis University (PA). He holds a Ph.D. degree in History from The Ohio State University. Gene has written 18 books about the Civil War. His first, *Citizen-General: Jacob Dolson Cox and the Civil War Era*, was published in 2014 by Ohio University Press. He is currently working with the University of Tennessee Press on a companion book, *My Dearest Lilla: Civil War Letters Home by General Jacob D. Cox*. Gene is a native Ohioan who lives in Gainesville, Virginia, on the border of the Manassas battlefields.

LLI Coordinator: David Pace

S23-082, Russia's Hegemonic Wars: Tsarist, Soviet, and Putinist Trend and Transformation in Security Policy

February 17, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Location: Zoom

Maximum class size: 150

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Dr. Mark Royce

Description: With the recent reappearance of Russian external aggression against Ukraine, this class will provide a historical and comparative overview of Russian power projection in Eurasia. Beginning with the unexpected Leninist persecution of the former Romanov dependencies, continuing with the imposition of a new constitution in 1936 under Stalin, and concluding with President Putin's sustained efforts to revive Russian imperial power, this class will place the current Ukrainian situation within a larger context. Representation of these conflicts in Russian literature and film, and tentative predictions for the near and far term future of European security will be discussed.

Biography: Mark Royce, Ph.D., is assistant professor of international relations at NOVA-Annandale. He is a frequent essayist and lecturer on the intersection of religion and politics and international relations and law.

LLI Coordinator: Mike Ahern

S23-083, Extinct Languages

April 14, 2023, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Manassas Park Community Center, 99 Adams St., Manassas Park, VA 20111 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 100

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Dr. Douglas Wulf

Description: It can be fascinating and mysterious to encounter an extinct language, which is a language that no longer has any speakers. We can discover words, sentences, and entire texts that once had meaning and importance for groups of people in the past, but no longer do. As it happens, there are many living languages spoken today that are on the brink of extinction. Of the 7,000 or so living languages on earth, it is estimated that by 2050 about 90% will have gone extinct. This course will examine extinct languages, contrast them with dead, dying, and dormant languages, and explore to what extent it might be possible to prevent language extinction and even sometimes bring an extinct language back from oblivion.

Biography: Dr. Douglas Wulf is Associate Professor of Linguistics in the English Department of George Mason University. In addition to Dr. Wulf's interest in the history of the English Language, he does work in the study of meaning (semantics/pragmatics) and applied linguistics as it pertains to preparing individuals to become teachers of English as a second language. He has taught several classes for LLI-Manassas relating to the English language but also on his other fields of interest, especially religious subject matters. We look forward to having him return to LLI to teach another very interesting class.

LLI Coordinator: Nancy Osborne

S23-084, The American West: History, Myth, and Legacy

May 1, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Additional dates: May 8, May 15, May 22

Location: Bethel Lutheran Church, 8712 Plantation Lane, Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 100

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Facilitators: Ann Cain and Dan Leahy

Description: Using The Great Courses videos and class discussions, we will examine how the exploration, conquest, and settlement of the West transformed the United States from a regional republic to a continental and later a world power. In the process, Western history became the source of myths, legends, movies, politics, and the basis of what many would call the exceptional character of Americans.

Biography: Ann Cain spent 39 years teaching American history and government to high school and community college students in several states including Virginia. She received her undergraduate degree in history from Duke University and her master's degree in history from the University of Tulsa. She is a James Madison Foundation Fellow with a special interest in the creation of the United States and the U.S. Constitution. Ann currently serves as the president of LLI.

Dan Leahy is a retired federal government employee with over 30 years of public service in the area of international trade. He has taught the Great Decisions classes for many years and is a long-time member of LLI and a former president of LLI.

LLI Coordinator: Ann Cain

Lifestyle

S23-091, Lesser Known Places in Istanbul

January 23, 2023, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Zoom from Istanbul, eight times zones away

Maximum class size: 614

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Serif Yenen

Description: Approximately 99% of visitors to Istanbul spend only about two and a half days and see only the highlights: the Topkapi Palace, the Blue Mosque, the Hagia Sophia and the Grand Bazaar. We want to do much better than this. We cannot possibly ignore these highlights, but we want to avoid the beaten path of mass tourism and put the emphasis on showing the real Istanbul and real Istanbulians. This presentation will unveil and reveal Istanbul by way of the back door and project the philosophy behind the culture.

Biography: Serif Yenen is a travel specialist, tour guide, travel writer, filmmaker, international keynote speaker and lecturer. He wrote Turkish Odyssey in English, the "first guidebook of Turkey ever written by a Turk." Yenen gives lectures about travel and Turkish history and culture, the majority of which are for academic communities. His guidebooks are used as textbooks or are on suggested reading lists at various universities, and his articles and columns are published in international magazines and national newspapers. He has given numerous presentations for the Smithsonian Associates, both in person at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. and also via Zoom. He has also been a guest speaker for the Penn Museum in Philadelphia, the Boston University, the University of Washington, the American Turkish Societies, the Boston Cultural Festival, Stormont Parliament Building in Belfast, various libraries and many more places. Serif Yenen has been leading tours in Istanbul and all over Turkey since 1989. He was designated Best Tourist Guide of the year 2006 by Skalite and has been asked to give guiding services to such noted people as Pope Benedict XVI, Oprah Winfrey, Matt Lauer and Lester Holt (Today Show-NBC). He continues his signature tours with a focus on culture, history and culinary experiences.

This is the fourth LLI presentation by Serif Yenen. The first, on the history of Istanbul, was a highlight of the Fall 2021 semester, and his talk on Göbekli Tepe in the Spring 2022 semester was acclaimed to be among the best programs which LLI-Manassas has ever presented. His third, "The Wonders of Ancient Ephesus" was another huge success.

LLI Coordinator: David Pace

S23-092, Dinosaur Virtual Field Trip

February 16, 2023, 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

Location: Zoom from a mobile device being carried around a dinosaur quarry in Utah.

Maximum class size: 614

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Ranger Tif Small

Description: This will be a Zoom program from Dinosaur National Monument near Vernal, UT. National Park Service Rangers holding tablet computers will take us on a tour through the dinosaur quarry, where over 1,500 fossils are left in place as they were found. Rangers will bring our class on a journey to the late Jurassic to learn about paleontology revealed in the Quarry Exhibit Hall, one of the most famous dinosaur quarry sites in the world. We will learn about fossils, dinosaurs, geology, geologic time, earth history, adaptations, and more.

Biography: Tif Small has been joyfully working in her dream job as interpretive Park Ranger at Dinosaur National Monument since late 2010. She became a Park Ranger as a third career at the age of 41 after visiting the Grand Canyon and viewing Ken Burns' documentary "The National Parks: America's Best Idea." It was after these two events Tif realized that she could combine her lifelong love of the outdoors, conservation, and sharing nature with others by joining the Park Service. Shortly thereafter in early 2010, she obtained her first seasonal position as a Park Ranger at the Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona. Although Tif currently specializes in dinosaur paleontology, she's also passionate about geology, astronomy, and bats, and conducts public speaking programs on all of these subjects with visitors. When Tif is not ranger-ing at the monument (and telling cheesy jokes about dinosaurs), some of her interests include spending time with her hubby, cuddling three kitty cats, photography, hiking, traveling and contemplating the universe.

LLI Coordinator: David Pace

S23-093, Spring Flower Arranging Class

April 20, 2023, 01:00 pm to 03:00 pm

Location: Flower Gallery of Manassas, 10816 Sudley Manor Drive, Manassas, VA 20109 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 20

Fee: \$45.00 -pay upon arrival in either cash or check

Speaker/Host: Doug Burroughs

Description: Doug will demonstrate how to choose flowers, greenery and other materials for a floral arrangement and will supply each student with the materials needed to make an arrangement to take home to enjoy. This is the only class session this semester.

Biography: Doug Burroughs has owned the Flower Gallery of Manassas for over 40 years. His career began in high school when he had a job delivering flowers after school. He now works in all aspects of the floral business, including designing floral arrangements. Doug has taught classes for clubs, civic groups, and numerous classes for LLI.

LLI Coordinator: Jill Gentry

S23-094, Wine Tasting—Barrel Oak Winery

May 10, 2023, 02:00 pm to 03:30 pm

Location: Barrel Oak Winery & Brewery, 3623 Grove Lane, Delaplane, Virginia. 20144 (540) 364-6402 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 50

Fee: \$35.00 per person, due at registration

Speaker/Host: Jeannine Weners – Certified Wine Spirit Education Trust Graduate

Description: Barrel Oak Winery is located approximately 20 minutes from Manassas in the pristine country landscape of Fauquier County. The property is 70 acres of gorgeous vistas with 30 acres of ten varietals under vine. Barrel Oak is committed to making the finest quality wines and craft beers. Jeannine Weners will guide you through an entertaining journey of wine tasting with light charcuterie, a cellar tour, and an in-depth discussion of the evolution of wine in Virginia.

The fee is \$35.00 per person, due at registration. The last day to register for the class is May 1st. The fee is non-refundable after that date unless you find a replacement and notify the class coordinator.

Biography: Jeannine Weners is a certified Wine Spirit Education Trust Graduate with more than twelve years of experience in the Virginia wine industry. She has honed her skills at Barrel Oak Winery and will provide an enjoyable afternoon of vistas, history, and wine.

LLI Coordinator: Kelly Espy

S23-095, Travel Adventure with Road Scholar

April 12, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Location: Bethel Lutheran Church, 8712 Plantation Lane, Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 100

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Kelly Espy

Description: Over 5 million people have experienced the unique travel opportunities of Road Scholar, a "not for profit" organization that visits over 150 countries and all 50 states. Road Scholar offers programs for singles, grandparents and grandchildren, and groups of various sizes and ages. Tours and trips range from very active, like

skiing & hiking, to the more relaxed river boat cruises, and each Road Scholar program is designed to enrich, thrill, and challenge you.

Road Scholar programs include all hotel costs, meals, tips, taxes, entrance fees and equipment. Road Scholar concentrates on learning, giving the traveler the opportunity to be with experts who have a passion for their craft and enable you to enjoy learning with friends and families while meeting and making new friends who share your interests.

Biography: Kelly Espy was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, and moved to the Washington D.C. area 45 years ago. She completed both her undergraduate and graduate degrees at George Mason University. She is a registered nurse and currently teaches water aerobics at the Freedom Center in Manassas. Kelly has enjoyed traveling with friends and family and has attended many Road Scholar programs.

LLI Coordinator: Kelly Espy

S23-096, Cedar Run Brewery: A Tour and a Tasting

March 10, 2023, 01:00 pm to 03:00 pm

Location: Cedar Run Brewery, 12801 Hazelwood Drive, Nokesville, VA 20181 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: Minimum class size: 10, maximum: 25.

Fee: Class fee \$28 (include with registration)

Speaker/Host: Jim Gehlsen & Matt Ryan

Description: Hate an IPA, love a lager? Why does a dark beer pair well with dark chocolate?

From organic farm to farm brewery, we will hear a brief history of Cedar Run, followed by a tour of the brewery, where we'll be introduced to the process of brewing beer.

Head Brewer Matt Ryan will then lead us through a sampling from Cedar Run's four categories of beer: Easy Drinkin', Hops, Malty/Dark and Complex Flavors, explaining the flavor profiles and why the flavors are so distinct.

Light snacks will be served to complement the different beer flavors.

Note: The last day to register for the class is February 27. After that date, the fee is non-refundable unless you find a replacement or if there is a wait list.

Biography:

Owner Jim Gehlsen and his wife Jean bought the 98 acres now known as Evergreen Acres in 1983. At the time it was all planted in corn with no roads, no buildings and had 5 overgrown hedgerows crossing the fields.

Jim was a masonry contractor for 32 years while also working the farm. In 2010 he became the first and only certified organic grower in Prince William County, which he pursued for eight years. In 2017 he designed and with the help of his farm hand, started building Cedar Run Brewery which opened two years later in 2019.

In 2020 Jim got a winery license for the brewery and began producing mead from the bees he had been keeping for the prior 8 years. This allowed the brewery to offer wine, cider, and mead in addition to the beer.

Jim is a past president of the Prince William Regional Beekeepers Association and mentors several new beekeepers each year. He has also been a director of the PW Soil and Water Conservation District for over 10 years and is currently a director of the PW/Fairfax Farm Bureau.

Head Brewer Matt Ryan has been working in the local beer industry since 2010. He began by washing and delivering kegs at Capital City Brewing Company and learning all he could about cellar operations whenever he was caught up on his regular duties. Prior to coming to Cedar Run,

Matt continued to develop his skills and expand his knowledge base while working as Assistant Brewer at Rock Bottom Brewing, and then Lead Brewer role at Mad Fox Brewing Company,

Matt loves to brew everything from Belgian ales and hop forward beers to German lagers. He enjoys challenging himself with more exotic beers such as Mexican hot chocolate stout. While he enjoys creating an array of styles, he is eager to incorporate locally sourced ingredients into rustic farmhouse style beers at Cedar Run Brewery. Above all Matt loves to change people's views and misconceptions on beer styles and open their eyes to new flavors and styles they have previously overlooked.

LLI Coordinator: Valerie Kenyon Gaffney

S23-097, Spring Morning in the Garden!

May 8, 2023, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Location: The Anzzolins' home is 3 miles east of Manassas. The address will be furnished in the Reminders.

Maximum class size: No Limit

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Karla and Roger Anzzolin

Description: Welcome to Karla and Roger Anzzolins' garden! They will lead visitors to the flower beds and point out the many flowers and shrubs blooming in early May. You can stroll among the beds on your own, if you wish.

Depending on the early spring weather, the flowers usually seen at this time of year include azaleas, lilac, foxglove, clematis, irises and roses. Ask for planting tips and recommendations for planting in sun or shade; gardeners love to share information with others. Come enjoy a spring morning in the garden with the Anzzolins. Light refreshments will be provided.

Biography: The Anzzolins had their house built 25 years ago on a wooded lot on the Occoquan River. It contained foundation plants and grass from the builder, and Karla and Roger enjoyed adding many flower beds, rock edgings,

a paved patio and a stone wall. And Roger would also add, a shed! Along with upkeep in the flower beds, there is the ongoing, regular maintenance of the grass. The Audubon Society of Northern Virginia has certified that their property has met the requirements for designation as an Audubon at Home Wildlife Sanctuary. Their daughter, Natalie, who enjoys gardening and lives nearby, has helped tremendously through the years with the many projects. Their son in New Jersey also enjoys yard work with his family, which includes the Anzzolins' three grandchildren. They spend many hours in the garden and yard and watch nature, including birds, squirrels, fox and deer. "Hopefully," Karla says, "for many more years!"
LLI Coordinator: Karen Waltman

Our Neighborhood

S23-101, Getting to the "core" of Proper Waste Management and Recycling

March 15, 2023, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Dar al-Noor Islamic Community Center, 5404 Hoadly Rd, Manassas, 20112 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 150

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Deborah Campbell and Michelle Hickerson

Description: In this class there will be two presentations of thirty minutes each followed by a thirty minute Q&A. The days of "toss it out" and let someone else worry about it is so 1960ish. Today's "eco-citizen" should make a plan for their unwanted items. The trash and ultimately the landfill should be the last resort for many household items because a great deal of what we discard could be reused or recycled, even repaired or repurposed. Recycling is dynamic and it is different in jurisdictions throughout Northern Va. and the DMV. Prince William Co. Solid Waste Communications Analyst Deborah Campbell will discuss proper disposal and recycling and the benefits of this behavior on our environment and community.

Michelle Hickerson will speak specifically about your food scraps and what to do with them rather than tossing them in the trash, thus ending up in the landfill. You may have considered composting but were not sure how to get started with such a complicated task. Michelle will talk about the different ways to compost and how the environment benefits. She works for Compost Crew, a locally owned food scrap recycling business that offers convenient composting services to over 8,000 residential and commercial customers throughout the DMV. Their company services have diverted thousands of tons of food waste from landfills.

Biography: Deborah Campbell is the Communication Analyst for the Prince William Co. Solid Waste Division. In this role, she educates residents of Prince William Co. about the appropriate solid waste management practices and the alternatives that Prince William Co. provides at its solid waste facilities. The major focus of this outreach is Reduce, Reuse and Recycle and the proper disposal of electronics and household hazards waste. The end goal being to preserve landfill space and protect the environment.

Michelle Hickerson is the Community Outreach and Growth Associate for Compost Crew. Being an avid environmentalist she believes that through education, empowerment and excitement she can make a difference in our world.

LLI Coordinator: Nancy Osborne

S23-102, Hylton Performing Arts Center: Behind the Scenes

May 25, 2023, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Additional dates:

Location: Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas, VA 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 30

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Marit Majeske and Kevin Douglas Smith

Description: Have you ever wondered what it takes to bring performances to life on stage? Join Hylton Center staff members for a deep dive into the Hylton Performing Arts Center including an overview of its history and programs. After an introductory presentation we'll take a tour of the building including the backstage and support areas as well as the technical elements we use to bring performances to life. Join us for an opportunity to see the stage from a different perspective.

Biography: Marit Majeske is the Education Coordinator at the Hylton Performing Arts Center. She has been on staff since the Hylton Center opened its doors in 2010, serving as the first Front of House Manager for the venue. During her time as the Front of House Manager she coordinated all front of house operations and oversaw the department's growth.

In October 2016, Marit took on the additional role of Interim Education Coordinator, working with local school systems to provide diverse arts experiences to local students. Her role as Education Coordinator became full time in December 2019 and since then she has guided the growth of the Hylton Center's Education Initiative. The Initiative now includes in-person and virtual field trips, masterclasses, workshops, performance engagement activities, and in-school activities for learners of all ages. In addition to this programming, Marit also coordinates the Hylton Center Artist-in-Residence activities each season.

Prior to joining the staff at the Hylton Center, Marit worked as an Assistant House Manager at Ford's Theater and a volunteer intern with the Performing Arts for Everyone and Kennedy Center Friends offices at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Marit began her career as Deputy Finance Director and Director of Events for a congressional campaign in Illinois.

Marit holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music and Broadcast Journalism from Winthrop University (Rock Hill, SC) and a Masters of Arts in Arts Management from George Mason University. Marit received the Kennedy Center Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disability (LEAD) Emerging Leader Award in August 2014. She is a member of the Leadership Prince William Class of 2023.

In her spare time she enjoys baking, going to theater, exploring Virginia, and studying early American history. Kevin Douglas Smith has been with the Hylton Performing Arts Center since its opening in May 2010 as the Technical Director. Previously he worked at the Concert Hall at Center for the Arts as their Master Carpenter/Flymen for nine years. Before that he was with the Washington Ballet as their Production Carpenter. Kevin graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1992 with a BFA in technical theater.

LLI Coordinator: Valerie Kenyon Gaffney

Religion & Philosophy

S23-111, *Who Wrote the Bible?*

February 17, 2023, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Additional dates: March 17, April 21, May 19

Location: Trinity Episcopal Church, 9325 West St., Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 80

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: The Rev. James Hughes

Description: In this class everyone will read and discuss *Who Wrote the Bible?* with Father Hughes as facilitator of the group. The book is a synthesis of the research by the author, Richard Elliott Friedman, who has chosen to publish his findings for those of us who are not specialists in the Bible. Over centuries small pieces of an enormous puzzle have emerged, and by the time of the second edition of his book, Professor Friedman states that enough of the puzzle has been completed to provide a useful picture of the writers of the Bible. The group will discuss the first part of the book in the spring 2023 semester and complete this study in the fall. The book is available at Amazon for \$13.29.

Biography: The Rev. James Hughes holds bachelor's degrees in both philosophy and the classics from St. Charles Seminary, Philadelphia. He holds master's degrees in both biblical studies and systematic theology from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. He was ordained a priest in the Roman Catholic Church in 1982. More recently he studied at the Virginia Theological Seminary, which led to being received as an Episcopal priest in December of 2016. Currently he serves as an associate priest at Trinity Episcopal Church in Manassas. Father Jim has taught 15 classes for LLI-Manassas. His first two classes were about the Library of Congress, where he worked for 23 years in the Visitor Services Office. Since then he has taught classes on the Book of Job, Biblical Inspiration, Inerrancy and Canoncity, and a variety of Preacher Stories and Biblical Portraits. LLI- Manassas is very fortunate to have Father Jim always willing to teach those of us eager to learn from him.

LLI Coordinator: Nancy Osborne

S23-112, *The Counter Reformation: The Council of Trent and its Impact on Christianity*

February 13, 2023, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Trinity Episcopal Church, 9325 West St., Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 80

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Frank Walworth

Description: This session is an overview of the Council of Trent, the responses of the Roman Catholic Church to the Protestant Reformation, and one of the most significant series of meetings in Christian history. Held between 1545 and 1563 in Trent (or Trento, in northern Italy), it has been described as "the embodiment of the Counter-Reformation." The Council responded emphatically and enacted the formal Roman Catholic reply to the doctrinal challenges of the Protestants. Although some of the decrees—such as the index—have since been suspended, the decisions of the Council of Trent continued to inform Catholic and Christian belief and practice up through the 1960s and the Second Vatican Council and, in part, continue to the present.

Biography: Frank Walworth has an undergraduate degree in philosophy and social science, and a Master of Divinity degree. Ordained a Roman Catholic priest in 1981, he served in various pastoral assignments in northern New York from 1981 to 1994, including teaching undergraduate courses in western civilization and adult education classes in church history for formation programs in the diocese of Ogdensburg. He moved to northern Virginia in 1994 and served in various capacities of the American Chemical Society, Washington, DC, where he retired in 2022 as assistant secretary for governance affairs. He is a member of Trinity Episcopal Church, Manassas, where he occasionally offers sessions for adult forums.

LLI Coordinator: Nancy Osborne

Science & Technology & Nature

S23-121, Bird Walk at Manassas National Battlefield Park

March 25, 2023, 08:00 am to 10:00 am

Location: New York Monument, 11703 General Hood Ct, Manassas, VA 20109 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: No Limit

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Candice Lowther

Description: It's time to dust off those field guides and binoculars! Meet at the New York Monuments on Route 29 ([CLICK FOR MAP](#)) in the Manassas National Battlefield Park for birding with Virginia Master Naturalist and avid birder, Candice Lowther. This area is a great place for woodpeckers and sparrows, and hopefully a few unexpected surprises. There are no bathrooms at this parking area, but we are just a quick drive to the Manassas National Battlefield Park picnic area ([CLICK FOR A MAP TO PICNIC AREA RESTROOMS](#)) and the visitor center ([CLICK FOR A MAP TO VISITOR CENTER RESTROOMS](#)). Please dress for the weather, bring your binoculars and remember to stay hydrated.

Biography: Candice Lowther has always enjoyed birds, but an American Kestrel on a Christmas Bird Count in the 90s completely hooked her. A passion for birds has taken her around the United States and a few other countries. Candice has taken courses in ornithology, avian migration, and raptor ecology while pursuing degrees in biology and education. She absolutely loves to share her passion for birds with others.

Candice led bird walks for LLI from 2011 through 2016, as well as the bird walk in the 2022 Spring semester.

LLI Coordinator: Karen Waltman

S23-122, Nuclear Power: The Hope and the Fear

February 7, 2023, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Additional dates: Feb. 14, Feb. 21, Feb 28

Location: Bethel Lutheran Church, 8712 Plantation Lane, Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 100

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Mark Dodge

Description: About 10% of all electricity generated in the world comes from nuclear power plants. But nuclear power is very controversial. How do nuclear power plants produce electricity? How long have they been around? What are the dangers and problems that make nuclear power so controversial? What caused the well-known disasters at Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, and Fukushima? What is the difference between power generated by nuclear fission and nuclear fusion? Is there a future for nuclear power, or would it be wiser to start phasing it out? We'll explore these and other questions in this course.

Biography: Mark Dodge received his bachelor's degree in physics from the University of California Berkeley and his master's degree in engineering physics from the University of Virginia. He worked as an engineering scientist at IBM and taught high school physics for 24 years.

LLI Coordinator: Christina Cinalli

S23-123, The Intelligence of Birds

March 30, 2023, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Zoom

Maximum class size: 150

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: William Young

Description: How intelligent are birds? How should the intelligence of birds be measured? During the past 20 year scientists have discovered that birds are capable of much more complex thought processes than previously believed. This class will examine many aspects of bird intelligence, including problem solving, memory, artistic talent, and the ability to be devious.

Biography: William Young has written *The Fascination of Birds: From the Albatross to the Yellowthroat*, which examines the relationship between birds, biology, environment, history, linguistics, art, and other areas. He is the co-creator of the MPNature.com website, which contains a wealth of information about the natural history of Monticello Park in Alexandria. William teaches classes and gives presentations about birds and nature for numerous groups in the greater Washington area.

LLI Coordinator: Mike Ahern

S23-124, Underwater Wonders Strange and Unusual

April 27, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Location: Manassas Park Community Center, 99 Adams St., Manassas Park, VA 20111 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 100

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: Steve Cohen

Description: Deep beneath the ocean blue, what strange creatures hide from view? Retired veterinarian and award winning underwater videographer Steve Cohen will be your guide. Using high definition video, Steve will show some of the more strange and unusual animals he has encountered — from the small but aggressive mantis shrimps, to colorful nudibranchs, the southern stargazer, cephalopods, eels, and even hammerhead sharks. Audience participation is encouraged so don't be afraid to ask questions during the seminar.

Biography: Steve Cohen is a retired veterinarian who has been scuba diving all over the world since 1988. Since 1996 he has produced underwater videos that have been seen internationally and several have been featured at prestigious underwater film festivals. He works with the Coral Reef Alliance to help preserve and protect coral reefs.
LLI Coordinator: Mike Ahern

Clubs

S23-141, Mah Jongg Club

January 17, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:30 pm

Additional dates: Every Tuesday

Location: Jukebox Diner, 8637 Sudley Road, Manassas 20110. In the Canterbury Village Shopping Center, across from UVA Health Prince William Medical Center. ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 40

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: N/A

Description: Every Tuesday from 1:30-3:30 p.m., we meet for fun, laughter, and a good time. All levels of experience are welcome from beginners through master players. For more information, contact Kathy Fowler at the link "Email a question to a coordinator" below.

Biography: N/A

LLI Coordinator: Kathy Fowler

S23-142, Book Club

January 25, 2023, 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

Additional dates: Feb 22, Mar 29, Apr 26, May 31, Jun 28, Jul 26, Aug 30

Location: Bethel Lutheran Church, 8712 Plantation Lane, Manassas 20110 ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 100

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: A variety of individuals will lead the discussion each month. N/A

Description: Books, both fiction and non-fiction, are selected by the members, usually one or two months in advance. Members are encouraged to lead a discussion. The discussions are educational, interesting and fun for all, including those who may not have finished reading the current book. The club meets on the last Wednesday afternoon of each month.

Biography: N/A

LLI Coordinator: Lianetta Ruetters

S23-143, Lunch Club

February 3, 2023, 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

Additional dates: Mar 3, Apr 13, May 5, Jun 2, Jul 7, Aug 4, Sep 1

Location: Juke Box Diner, 8637 Sudley Road, Manassas 20110.

In the Canterbury Village Shopping Center, across from UVA Health Prince William Medical Center. ([Google Maps link](#))

Maximum class size: 100

Fee: None

Speaker/Host: N/A

Description: The purpose of the club is for LLI members to enjoy a meal together and become better acquainted with fellow members. There is no planned program or topic—we just chat about anything that comes to mind. Participants pay for their own lunch.

In general, we meet on the first Friday of each month, but exceptions may occur in the event of conflicts.

Biography: N/A

LLI Coordinator: Mary Foster