I’m writing this just a week after another very well attended soiree. A large crowd, 85 by our best count, enjoyed the opportunity just to be together and catch up with what’s happening in each other’s lives. We nibbled, we sipped, we talked.

It strikes me that, when we talk about LLI, we tend to emphasize the chance to keep our minds sharp and to learn new things. That’s certainly an important aspect of LLI. But, the soiree reminds me of another very important facet of LLI membership and that’s the social one. I don’t just mean partying! I mean the opportunity to meet new people, to reacquaint ourselves with some folks we may have lost touch with over the years, and to continue to share experiences with old friends. Certainly I’ve done all three in my years as an LLI member.

I’ve met people such as Marlene and Paul Pawlowski from St. Charles whom I wouldn’t have otherwise met. I’ve run into folks like Brian and Linda Fulton whose children went to Jefferson Elementary School with my children; I hadn’t talked to them in years. And, of course, I continue to share my political passions with Elizabeth Bass, who has been my close friend for over 40 years.

I’m sure each of you can tell similar stories of how LLI has enriched and expanded your social circle as well as expanded your mind. We know from a short survey that the LLI Outreach Committee did last year that the way most people first learn about LLI is because a friend or neighbor introduces them to it. So, invite someone you know or an acquaintance you’d like to get to know better to join you at LLI. You can invite them to be a guest at a study group session or two to try us out. And then your friend may run into an old friend or make a new one at LLI.

There will be another opportunity to just socialize at our revamped fall get-together. Instead of a luncheon, we’re having a pizza party. Details are on pages three and four of this newsletter, and we hope many of you can join us for that event. It should be fun. I look forward to seeing you all in the study groups, at the lunch table, and for pizza.
A SENSE OF PLACE

Since his retirement from NIU’s Department of Geography, Dan Dillman has been deeply involved with LLI. It is no easy matter to capture in this brief space what this man is all about. His contributions to LLI offer too many clues. He has convened study groups as diverse as Route 66 (he's traveled it); Castles, Palaces and Vineyards of Europe (he's visited his share); The Great Lakes (he's a proud native of Detroit, which sits at the heart of the region); and Baseball (for three years as a teen-ager, he was a batboy for the visiting teams at Tiger Stadium).

If you ask this Renaissance man how his interests came to be so varied, you are met with his typical enigmatic smile and a long pause. "Because," he finally says, "unlike today's university programs, which emphasize learning more and more about less and less, I was fortunate to study in an era when a broad perspective was encouraged." This education helped him to establish a strong sense of "place," which Dan says now informs every topic he addresses.

We should all be in for a treat this fall when Dan convenes a new LLI study group, Our Changeable Northern Illinois Weather. It will cover much more than just meteorology, however, as Dan also looks at the topic from the various perspectives of physical, historical, and cultural geography. His study group certainly sounds like a "place" to be in the fall term.

--Brad Pietens

A BABY BOOMER’S TESTIMONIAL

Despite my aversion to being labeled, I will readily acknowledge being a baby boomer. After all, Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush share the same birth year with me. And, even though I do not merit the same status accorded these two world leaders, we do share another commonality – we have chosen to remain active and involved in our so-called retirement years.

In addition to a general exercise and diet regimen to allay any physical and medical concerns, I have been enrolled in the Lifelong Learning Institute, an adult outreach program offered by NIU’s College of Liberal Arts & Sciences to anyone over the age of 50.

Since my retirement in 2011, I have taken advantage of a multitude of LLI offerings, covering such diverse topics as history, finance, travel, current events, and gardening...to name a few. But the greatest benefit has been meeting a very diverse group of people, from all walks of life, who are willing to share their experiences, their knowledge, and their friendships.

Whether or not they are baby boomers, we all share that same desire to expand our horizons, nourish our spirits, and feed our brains.

"The mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be kindled.” - Plutarch

For more information on NIU’s Lifelong Learning Institute visit www.lli.niu.edu or call 815-753-5200.

--Brian Fulton
WHERE DOES MY MONEY GO?

What does my LLI membership fee pay for?
Our two biggest expenses are room charges and audio-visual equipment fees at the Holmes Student Center. The rooms range from $30—$40 per day. All equipment fees range from $10 to show a DVD to $35 for the complete set-up to show an online video.

What are LLI’s other expenses?
Our newest expense, and one the Steering Committee believes is worth it, are the salaries for the graduate assistant and extra helper who are on duty to assist with technical and computer issues whenever we meet. Your fee also covers printing expenses for study group materials & handouts. We also pay a fee for registration, administration, and office support from NIU’s College of Liberal Arts & Sciences External Programming as well as the postage and printing for mailings.

Does NIU provide any financial support?
The vice president of NIU’s outreach division underwrites printing of our catalogs four times a year, a subsidy that could cease at any time. As an NIU-affiliated group, we also get reduced rates on our student center room charges and AV equipment fees, printing, and other on-campus services. LLI members also receive discounted parking in the Visitors Lot.

How can we control our expenses?
Since so many of our costs (room charges, AV equipment fees, dedicated technicians) are fixed, the best way to control costs is to increase enrollment. Aside from handouts, expenses are the same whether there are 15 people or 25 people in a study group.

Do conveners get paid?
No. Conveners not only do not get paid but also, like all LLI members, pay membership fees if they are also enrolling in study groups.

COME PARTY OVER PIZZA!

For one fee, you can consume all the LLI study groups and Notables lectures that you want. In that spirit, we are replacing our fall luncheon with an all-you-can-eat pizza party on September 25. (See details on page 4.)

We’re moving to this new format for several reasons. Our traditional location, the American National Bank, is no longer available, nor were various other locations for reasons ranging from date to insurance. Moving from before the term to the second week of study groups also gives new and veteran members a better chance to get acquainted.

You’re welcome to bring guests, friends, or family and are welcome even if you are not taking fall study groups. We’ll even send out a list of things-to-do on campus that day between the end of LLI study groups and 5 p.m.

Mark Your Calendar!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LLI Fall Term</td>
<td>September 17 - November 7, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall LLI Pizza Party</td>
<td>September 25, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>LLI Winter Term</td>
<td>January 17 - February 13, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>LLI Spring Term</td>
<td>March 18 - May 8, 2014</td>
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THE FALL 2013 LLI MENU
September 17 – November 7

Innovation and the Third Industrial Revolution – Lynn Neeley
3-D printers and other innovations from medicine to engineering

Influential Women in the 20th Century – Carol Zar
Achievements of leaders in government, religion, social action

Protest Poetry (4 weeks) – Rosalind Bowers
The power of socio-political commentary in modern poetry

Listening Creatively and Critically to Rock Music (six weeks) – Glenda Cosenza
Rhythm and blues, heavy metal, funk and more

Realms that Almost Were: Geographies of Daydreams and Desire (six weeks) - Joe Gastiger
Lost empires, lost Edens and the searchers

The 1940s, Part One – Elaine Spencer and George Spencer
The home front and overseas, during and after World War II

Our Changeable Northern Illinois Weather -- Dan Dillman
The whys of air masses, cold fronts, jet streams, tornadoes

The DeKalb Environment (4 weeks) -- Dan Kenney
Local water, land, food security, waste and recycling issues

The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln (4 weeks) – Al Ottens
Facts and myths about key people and events

Writing to Remember, Reconstruct, and Give Meaning to Stories of Our Lives – Marilyn Cleland
Workshop on writing individual life narratives

Snapshot or Photograph? (4 weeks) – Tom Smith
Steps to take, process, print, and distribute digital photos

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) at NIU (4 weeks) - NIU CEET faculty
How NIU reduces barriers and prepares successful STEM grads

LLI FALL PIZZA PARTY

Wednesday, September 25, 2013
5 p.m. - ?
Pizza Villa
824 W. Lincoln Highway, DeKalb (Junction Shopping Center)

Pizza Buffet (unlimited pizza & soft drinks)
Cash bar for wine & beer
$11/person, payable at door
Members & Guests Welcome

Advance reservations required by Monday, September 23
RSVP to Sharon Tourville at stourville@comcast.net or 815-758-0236 (leave a message)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
Winter 2013
Roger Cohn, DeKalb
Anne Cole, DeKalb
Bob Engel, Geneva
Elizabeth Patterson, Sycamore
Margaret Roseberg, DeKalb
Regina Smith, DeKalb
Terrence Smith, DeKalb
Kris Stefani, DeKalb
Joan Vandre, DeKalb

Spring 2013
Thecla Behrens-Cooler, Sycamore
Nancy Gross, DeKalb
Joe Grush, DeKalb
Catherine Harned, DeKalb
Robert Higgerson, DeKalb
Jane Ann Moore, DeKalb
William Moore, DeKalb
Nicholas Noe, DeKalb
Mike Sawyer, DeKalb
Dan Seymour, DeKalb
Virginia Seymour, DeKalb

Summer 2013
Kathleen Higgerson, DeKalb
Peggy Huffman, Genoa
Yvonne Johnson, Sycamore
Sue Miller, Belvidere
Cheryl Wessels, Sycamore
Nadine Zimmerman, DeKalb

IN MEMORIAM
Grace Adee