

The LLI Resource Network
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
June 2015

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This month, we have some very exciting news to share! Road Scholar is hard at work on a completely redesigned virtual resource center with online networking opportunities. When the site goes live later this summer, you will be able to access best practices, Road Scholar research, upload job openings and join online discussions with your peer institutes. This new website, created from your input and requests, will encompass all of the resources that Road Scholar currently offers LLI members — and much more.

To effectively recognize the significance of this new website and the scope of the new offerings, we are re-launching RSIN as **the LLI Resource Network at Road Scholar**. There will be a brand-new URL and you will be able to log into “members only” resources and secure features such as a careers page and discussion boards.

Best of all, the LLI Resource Network will continue to be dues-free and will bring you all of these features at no cost! As a nonprofit organization dedicated to lifelong learning, Road Scholar is pleased to continue to partner with you to promote the benefits of learning in retirement. Your mission is part of our mission to inspire adults to learn and discover.

Goals are:

- Increase public awareness of LLIs
- Direct inquirers to their closest LLI through online search capability
- Facilitate curriculum growth and quality
- Encourage communication and collaboration among LLIs

Mark Your Calendars: Lifelong Learning Day

As part of our mission to inspire adults to learn, discover and travel, Road Scholar has created a day to recognize the importance of lifelong learning in our society. Lifelong Learning Day will be observed on October 15th by Congress and lifelong learners all over the globe. Watch the newsletter for more details!

SIG Corner

In this month's newsletter, we are launching a new feature to help provide information, curriculum, discussion points and suggested reading designed for Special Interest Groups. Depending on the size of the LLI and the activity-level of members, the number of SIGs can vary from 1 to 50+. Some of the most popular themes are bridge, hiking, reading, travel, languages and photography. As

a not-for-profit dedicated to meeting the educational travel needs of older adults, Road Scholar programs cover many of the same learning topics in our educational adventures.

This month, we're highlighting some US-based bridge courses that you can share with your Bridge SIGs. Below you will find the program name, number and location, along with highlights of the program, and links to the daily schedule and suggested reading. Within the daily schedule, your Bridge SIG members can view the class topics such as "Taking Tricks on Purpose" and "Defense Designed to Make Them Tremble" in Wawrick, R.I. We hope that the compilation of this information benefits you and your SIGs on a monthly basis.

Mastering Bridge on San Francisco Bay

Burlingame, Calif. — Program #21775

If you play bridge on the intermediate level and are looking to elevate your game with expert instruction and lots of practice time, look no further than this immersion in the world of bridge on beautiful San Francisco Bay. Each day, learn techniques and strategies in morning sessions with a master instructor followed by supervised play reflecting the skills learned in class. In the afternoon, the practice continues with supervised duplicate play complete with scoring and discussion, followed by an evening of bridge played in a relaxed atmosphere. Duplicate bridge gives you the discipline to play your hands properly and communicate with your partner at a higher level. By learning sound bridge fundamentals, you will become a better bridge player even if you play party bridge regularly. At week's end, be amazed by how much your skills have improved.

Highlights

- Become a better player by immersing yourself completely in the game of bridge, surrounded by fellow enthusiasts and the beauty of the San Francisco Bayfront Trail.
- Learn to bid and evaluate your hand properly and master bidding conventions like Stayman, Jacoby Transfers and Takeout Doubles.
- Perfect play-of-the-hand techniques including promotion and length, long suits, ducking and finesse. Acquire lethal defensive methods like leads and second- and third-hand plays.

Notes

This program is designed for intermediate players who have a knowledge of basic bridge concepts and scoring. Appropriate for social and party players familiar with duplicate play. Not suitable for players new to bridge or duplicate play.

Daily Schedule: <http://www.roadscholar.org/n/program/dailySchedule.aspx?dID=1-7GJMKR>

Suggested

reading: <http://www.roadscholar.org/n/program/suggestedReading.aspx?dID=1-7GJMKR>

Beginner's Bridge, Intermediate Bridge or Advancing Bridge: Choose Your Level on the Golden Isles

Jekyll Island, Ga. — Program #20716

The natural beauty of Georgia's most storied barrier island provides the idyllic backdrop for an instructive foray into the game of bridge. Join players of similar skill on Jekyll Island during a week tailored to your level of play and benefit from the guidance of bridge experts who develop your skills through workshops and evenings of play. Beginner's weeks introduce newcomers to the basics of this challenging card game, getting their feet wet with actual play and few lectures. Dates for intermediate-level players focus on expanding bidding

techniques and declarer play, with classroom instruction on topics like hand evaluation, competitive bidding, opening leads and signals, defensive bidding, developing strategy and analysis of the deal. Advancing-level players will spend a week focused on adding conventions and logic to their partnership understanding, building upon their existing familiarity with opening bids and responses, overcalls and advances, take-out doubles, forcing bids, leads and signals.

Highlights

- Select the program date best suited to your level of play — beginning, intermediate or advancing play of the hand — and get expert instruction on relevant concepts, techniques and strategies.
- Put what you've learned into practice during evening sessions of play as you enjoy the camaraderie of new friends who play at your level to provide appropriate challenges.
- Explore the exceptional beauty of Jekyll Island, once an exclusive enclave for the rich and powerful.

Daily Schedule: <http://www.roadscholar.org/n/program/dailySchedule.aspx?dID=1-8KNE5B>

Learn to Play the Best Bridge of Your Life

West Dover or Burlington, Vt. — Program #17720

In picturesque Vermont, award-winning, certified instructors teach concepts rather than rules and help you master the game of bridge by playing hands. Each day's sessions include expert presentations on bidding, play of the hand and defense. By program's end, you will have heightened your bridge skills and tested them by partnering up for a competitive but fun mini-tournament — perhaps with a jug of Vermont maple syrup as a grand prize!

Highlights

- Explore bidding with a modern, no-nonsense approach to Standard American, emphasizing competitive bidding tools.
- Learn all the secrets to taking tricks on purpose and see how easy it can be to count the cards.
- Examine defensive play and learn how to read through the back of your partner's cards.

Notes

This program is NOT suitable for those seeking beginner-level instruction. Participants should have a working knowledge of bridge and play on a regular basis.

Daily Schedule: <http://www.roadscholar.org/n/program/dailySchedule.aspx?dID=1-7NRK0T>

Suggested

Reading: <http://www.roadscholar.org/n/program/suggestedReading.aspx?dID=1-7NRK0T>

Adventures in Bridge

Warwick, N.Y. — Program #20083

Unravel the mysteries of bridge with a nationally recognized instructor who leads you to an entirely new way of looking at your favorite card game, without lectures or rules to memorize. Choose the date tailored to your skill level: Newbies start at the beginning with the "Easybridge!" system — the simplest proven way to master the game — and learn the game by playing hands with a top instructor who will have you enjoying bridge from the get-go. Experienced players dive right in with a light-hearted approach to modern bidding techniques perfect for social, party and duplicate gamers, using play of hands to develop

concepts of bidding, play and defense. Throughout your program, learn from an instructor known not only for a humorous and entertaining approach to teaching, but also for instruction of the highest quality.

Highlights

- Select the program date best suited to your level of play and get expert instruction on relevant concepts, techniques and strategies.
- Perfect bridge strategies by actual play of hands — no lectures or rules to memorize.
- Test your new skills during an end-of-program tournament.

Notes

Aug. 16, 2015: For experienced players with a grasp of the fundamentals and who play on a regular basis. Appropriate for social, party and duplicate players. Not suitable for beginners. Sept. 20, 2015: This date is for participants who have never played the game of bridge before and are intrigued to learn how to play. Also suitable for people who have not played in a long time and want to rejoin the bridge community. We will be using a special teaching format called “Easybridge!” ®, which is the simplest and fastest way to learn the game. You will be playing your first hand of bridge within 20 minutes.

Oct. 18, 2015: For experienced players with a grasp of the fundamentals and who play on a regular basis. Appropriate for social, party and duplicate players. Not suitable for beginners.

Daily Schedule: <http://www.roadscholar.org/n/program/dailySchedule.aspx?dID=1-7QUMKL>

Suggested

Reading: <http://www.roadscholar.org/n/program/suggestedReading.aspx?dID=1-7QUMKL>

CONFERENCE NEWS

It's not too late to signup for the 2015 Southern Regional Conference for Learning in Retirement at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Alabama.

Southern Regional Conference for Learning in Retirement
Bryant Conference Center
Tuscaloosa, Ala.
July 28-30, 2015

For more information and to register, visit: <http://training.ua.edu/olli-conference/index.php>
For questions, please contact the OLLI office at (205) 348-6468.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE NETWORK

From Learning in Retirement at California State University at Dominguez Hills

Omnilore 101 — Ideas for Enhancing our Classes

Basic to Omnilore is the idea of peer-directed learning. This approach means that everyone is involved in making the experience as interesting and productive as possible. We are lucky that many able coordinators willingly volunteer to hold pre-meetings, set up schedules, arrange for equipment, ensure the communication flow between members, and do many other things necessary for the smooth maintenance of the class. However, the responsibility for creating a class that is enjoyable and rewarding for all members is the shared responsibility of everyone in the class. Everyone can see if a discussion is getting off track, if time limits are not being observed, or if discussion is becoming

excessively heated. Respectfully calling attention to these kinds of lapses can often get things back on track. If everyone takes responsibility, our classes can only be a more productive and enjoyable experience for all. Along with our shared responsibility for these intellectual activities, we also share responsibility for our facility. It is everyone's task to make sure that equipment and supplies are stored properly, that tables and the sink areas are cleaned up, and that classrooms are left in good condition.

Congratulations to The Adult Learning Program at UCONN College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, marking their 25th birthday at the Annual Luncheon on June 2.

From Bucknell Institute for Lifelong Learning

Ruth Burnham of Lewisburg has been named director of the Bucknell Institute for Lifelong Learning (BILL), and Annie Smith of Mifflinburg has been named coordinator. They will take office in early summer.

Burnham succeeds Edward Cotter, also of Lewisburg, who is the founding director of the program, begun as a self-supporting affiliate of Bucknell University in May 2009.

Burnham, who has served as the program's coordinator since its inception, has assisted in all aspects of program development and management, seeing membership increase six-fold, and its reach span 31 regional communities.

Burnham's background includes 24 years in student life administration at Bucknell, ending as associate dean of students in 2002. "As BILL director, I hope to strengthen membership services, explore expansion opportunities, and maintain the high caliber of programs offered by the Institute," said Burnham.

Smith succeeds Burnham as coordinator. After decades in the not-for-profit world as an instructor for the Federal Boot Camp facility at the Lewisburg Penitentiary, as executive director for leadership Susquehanna Valley, and most recently the communications director for the American Red Cross, she brings a wealth of experience in working with volunteers, organizing events, public speaking and instruction at the adult level.

The Bucknell Institute for Lifelong Learning has provided adult learners in the Central Susquehanna Valley a broad range of educational and intellectual opportunities since 2009. More than 60 leaders have offered 206 non-credit short courses, and nearly 40 individuals have given special presentations in conjunction with the popular Lunch & Learn and Tea & Talk programs co-sponsored by Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village in Lewisburg.

Enjoy this wonderful curriculum summary from the 2014-2015 Annual Report from Robert Johnson, Board Chair of Miami University Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR). What sustains us as an adult learning community is the quality and the extent of our curriculum. The fall 2014 term was our largest term to date both in terms of number of courses offered (73) and total enrollment (286). For the first time, our students were able to register with ease online and many took advantage of this new simplified system. The spring term enrolled another new high (289), of which 53 were new members. An additional 21 participated in Special Events as non-members. Courses again were offered in Hamilton, Fairfield, Monroe, West Chester, as well as in Oxford. Thanks to the following for providing classroom space: Miami University, the Knolls of Oxford,

Berkeley Square, Lane Libraries Community Technology Center, LaRosa's, Voice of America Learning Center, MU Downtown Hamilton, The Tea Parlor, Uncorked@the Spicy Olive, Mount Pleasant Retirement Community.

True to our mission statement that ILR promotes opportunities for individuals 50 and older to enrich their lives as they explore areas within science, the arts, society, technology, business, economics and other subjects of interest, courses offered during the two terms included tours of Mt. Rumpke, the covered bridges of Preble County, and three local barns. Students learned about the troubled US transportation system, found out how to read music, explored topics of current interest, and embraced technology. We again went Krogering, and those interested in wine could choose between Germany and Austria or the wines south of the equator. One could learn about death beliefs and funeral practices or about men's and women's clothing choices in the late nineteenth century through the 1970s. They could talk baseball, explore photography, or ride a bicycle for physical fitness. Both the fall and spring bulletins had myriad learning opportunities for us at all of our ILR locations. The year 2014 marked the 50th anniversary of the Mississippi Summer project. Miami University hosted a national Freedom Summer Conference in Oxford from Oct. 12-14. ILR offered financial support for the conference, and many ILR members attended the noon luncheon on Monday with keynote speaker Chude Allen. In addition, Bill Gracie coordinated a four-week course featuring individuals reflecting on Freedom Summer.

CURRICULUM IDEAS

As always, we try to bring you a selection of new and innovative programs as well as a sampling of trends and most popular themes. If you would like to share your ideas, please email them to network@roadscholar.org and please make sure that you are sending us a paper or electronic version of your latest course offerings. Attached is the current list compiled from Summer course catalogs from some LLIs from across the country. [Click here](#)