

LIR News LEARNING IN RETIREMENT

WAUKESHA COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE

The Prez Sez.....

Welcome to another exciting year of activities for LIR. We are offering 53 courses this Fall, we have 11 special interest groups for members to join and 10 planned special events to travel with other members. Additional activities will also occur throughout the year. Please plan to participate in many of these wonderful activities. Thank you to all our members who have volunteered their time to make all these activities possible.

LIR finished the 2016-17 year with 655 members, which is very encouraging participation by the community. This also means we need more of our members to step forward and volunteer to make sure our members have activities to participate in. Please consider volunteering some of your time by teaching a course. We continue to have many requests for an introduction to Sheepshead or an Android cell phone course. If you like to hike, please consider coordinating our hiking special interest group.

This past year, two board members and two committee chairs resigned their positions. Finding replacements for these positions took a great deal of effort. For the next year, we will be needing a special events chair and a president. My wife, Linda, is the current chair of special events and is starting her fifth year in that role. Prior to that she served as co-chair for two years. I have started my third year as president. Both of us have decided that as much as we love LIR we have put enough time in these roles and it is time for other members to step forward and give a little bit more of themselves for this incredible organization. Please contact the LIR Office if you have interest in either of these positions.

If you were wondering whether LIR has a Facebook page, we have one. The address is <https://www.facebook.com/lir.wctc>. On our Facebook page, you will find information about upcoming events and picture summaries of previous LIR activities.

Chuck

Mark Your Calendar!



Thursday, October 19, 2017

WI Maritime Museum, Rahr-West Museum, Point Beach Nuclear Center, Manitowoc, WI

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

Milwaukee Church & Chocolate Tour
Milwaukee, WI

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

Palace Theater, *Branson on the Road Christmas Style*,
Wisconsin Dells, WI

Friday, January 12, 2018

LIR Bread Bowl
WCTC, Pewaukee, WI

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Museum of Science & Industry
Chicago, IL

June 11-14, 2018

LIR Overnight Trip
Dearborn & Grand Rapids, MI

Friday, June 22, 2018

LIR Annual Meeting
WCTC, Pewaukee, WI

Tuesday, July 24, 2018

LIR Kick-Off
WCTC, Pewaukee, WI

Do you know?

Computer Technology Offerings!

Melissa Seamonson, Business Information Technology Instructor at WCTC, has graciously offered some computer training for LIR members. As part of a Service Learning experience, students in Train-the-Trainer course at WCTC will be offering computer training next April and May. Training sessions will be student-led/instructor supported and focused on computer needs of the retirement community. These one hour sessions will include instruction, hands-on experience, and time for questions/answers. Sessions will be offered in the L-building of the WCTC Pewaukee campus.

Watch for details on session offerings, topics, and dates/times.



What is the ADRC?

The ADRC (Aging & Disability Resource Center) of Waukesha County has a resource guide of services and programs for older adults in Waukesha County. The resource guide offers information to seniors in many areas. The following list is just a small sample:

- 6-8 week programs dealing with diabetes, chronic pain, nutrition, balance and strength exercises
- Shared-Fare taxi program for limited or non-drivers, aged 65 or older
- Non-medical home care services (leaf removal, mowing, shoveling, etc.)
- Respite care (caregiver assistance)
- Support groups
- Elder benefit specialist programs (Medicare, Medigap, Medicaid, SSI, etc.)

Visit or call:

Human Services Center
514 Riverview Avenue
Waukesha, WI 53188
262-548-7848

www.waukeshacounty.gov/adrc

The 2017 guide is still available.

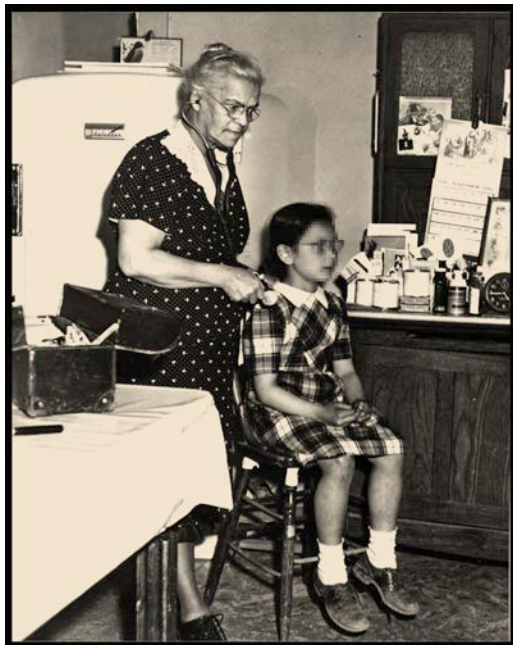
The 2018 resource guide will be available in March or April of 2018.

Honor Song - A Play by Carol O. Smart

April 28, 2017

By BARBARA & CHRISTIAN NAGY

LIR members were captivated and inspired by Carol Smart's passionate portrayal of Rosa Minoka-Hill, the second American Indian woman physician in the United States. Carol Smart is a playwright, actress, a former elementary teacher, and a granddaughter of Dr. Rosa Minoka-Hill. The play came at a perfect time, as a trip to the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin was planned for LIR members in the month of May.

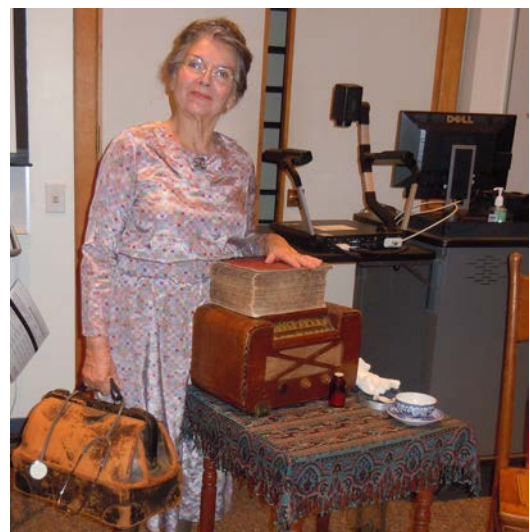


Rosa Minoka-Hill in her kitchen clinic

The one-woman play opened with Rosa Minoka-Hill clutching a scrapbook and sitting in her "kitchen clinic." As she gazed at the old photographs, memories of her past came to life. Rosa was born in 1876. Rosa's mother, a Mohawk Indian, died in childbirth. Rosa's father, a Quaker physician, brought Rosa to Philadelphia to be educated at age five at a Quaker school for girls. After high school, she spent a year in a convent in Quebec and converted to Catholicism. It was probably the Quaker values of her childhood and the year of serving the poor while in a convent that prepared her for a life of working with the poor on the reservation. After receiving her M.D. in 1899 from the Women's Medical College of

Pennsylvania, Rosa and a friend set up a private practice that offered services to a boarding school for American Indian children. There she met her future husband who was a farmer on the Oneida reservation in Wisconsin. He died at an early age of 43 and left her with six children to raise alone. The play depicts the joys, hardships, and adjustments to a rural life. Traditions and beliefs about medicine were different on a reservation. Her porch became a waiting room of benches, a corner in the parlor was a laboratory, and her kitchen was a clinic. The play moves through some difficult times: the Depression, World War II, scarlet fever, tuberculosis, and discrimination. She spent her entire life serving the poor and often accepted vegetables and chickens in exchange for payment. In 1947, Rosa was adopted by the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin and given the name "Yo-da-gent" meaning "she who serves." Rosa Minoka-Hill was honored by the erection of a monument in Oneida, an article in Life Magazine, and an honored guest at an American Medical Association Conference. Dr. Rosa-Minoka Hill School in Green Bay opened its doors in 2014 and serves students K-12 grades.

Following the play, there was a question and answer period in which Carol shared her knowledge of Oneida history, culture, treaties, humorous recollections, and problems on the reservation today. Afterwards, LIR members were able to spend time looking at photographs and articles on display boards. It was a WONDERFUL presentation!



Carol O. Smart as "Rosa Minoka-Hill"

The Vintage Mix at the Annual Meeting
June 21, 2017

By BARBARA NAGY

A record number of 104 LIR members attended the Annual Meeting. Many LIR members had been anxiously waiting to hear the Vintage Mix, a group of talented quadruplet singers who are juniors at Waukesha West High School. Their story began in fourth grade when they performed at a talent show at Randall STEM Academy in Waukesha Public Schools. They were one of the first mixed quartets in the Mixed Barbershop Harmony Association. They have performed locally and nationally in 14 states with a recent appearance at the *Fox and Friends* news show in New York City. They are presently preparing for an international barbershop competition in Germany.

Ian, Anika, Kelsey, and Julia opened their performance with the beloved tune, “Edelweiss,” from the 1959 Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, *The Sound of Music*. Their genre of music includes jazz, show tunes, songs from the 1940s, barbershop, and hymns. Their finale was the iconic World War II song and crowd pleaser, “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy.” The Vintage Mix is known for bringing many smiles to veterans. They routinely appear at the Mitchell International Airport to welcome WW II and Korean War veterans for the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight. Many veterans have reported that their singing and interactions were the highlight of their special day. Their singing and songs certainly put many smiles on the faces of LIR members. Thank you, Vintage Mix!



Vintage Mix Quartet

LIR Singers Perform at Kick-Off
July 26, 2017

By VALERIE BROWN AND BARBARA NAGY

The LIR Singers delighted an audience of about 175 people at the LIR Kick-Off. Their program this year is *Traveling the USA – States & Cities*. It is usually a 45-minute show but was shortened by about half for the Kick-Off. Many nostalgic favorites were sung, including “California Dreamin’” by The Mamas and the Papas. The dancing performances during the “Pennsylvania Polka” and “New York, New York” were true crowd pleasers! After visiting such places as Chicago, Ill., and Gary, Ind., it was time for the audience to sing and tap their feet for “On Wisconsin!” The grand finale with “America” brought people to their feet.

Coordinated by Rita Arnold, the 40-some members rehearse every Monday morning at Brookfield Highlands to put together an annual show, and then go out about every other Monday afternoon from May through December to perform for senior residences throughout the area. New singers (especially men!) are always welcome. The only requirement is the ability to carry a tune, like the old songs, and the desire to have a good time while performing a welcome respite service for our senior neighbors.



LIR Singers

Spotlight on LIR Courses

The Evolution of the American Fire Service

By BARBARA AND CHRISTIAN NAGY

Dr. Tom Schlei, Gary Schwartz, and Dan Carstens teamed together to present a very unique and interesting course on how the American fire service has evolved from the first settlers to today’s high technology era. Dr. Schlei was a firefighter for 21 years, past fire chief of Sussex, and retired after teaching at WCTC for 25 years. Gary Schwartz and Dan Carstens are retirees from the Waukesha Fire Department. Gary continues to teach part time at WCTC.

Students from all over Wisconsin are drawn to WCTC for certification or continuing education credits in firefighting and emergency medical service. There is a two-story burn building, one smoke house, a five-story tower building, one ambulance, two fire engines, and one ladder truck available. WCTC tries to stay involved with cutting-edge laboratory research and state-of-the-art technology.

The first two LIR sessions were at WCTC where LIR members learned about some of America’s worst fires: San Francisco, Chicago, Peshtigo, and Boston. A large selection of photographs presented on screen showed the history of firefighting from the era of bucket brigades to today’s use of drones. LIR members were able to handle old equipment and try on new turnout gear that can cost between \$2,500-\$3,500 per firefighter. Firefighters have two minutes to get on all gear that weighs about 65 pounds.



LIR member trying on self-contained breathing apparatus

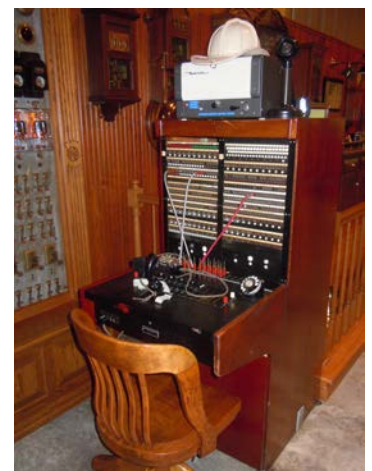
The last two sessions were off campus. The Venerable Fire Collection, Inc. in Slinger is an amazing collection of fire equipment from the late 1800s to 1955 that has been restored to the original factory condition. The exquisite gold leaf detailing on the vintage equipment is impressive. The restoration is among the best in the country. There are engines, steamers, alarm boxes, gear, and pumpers from across the country. The vehicles are started once a year so they remain operational. There is also an extensive display of a fire alarm telegraph system that was demonstrated by the instructors.



Gleason & Bailey 10 Man Hand Pumper, Circa 1877

The last class was a tour of the Waukesha Fire Department. This brought our group up to date with the high tech now being used. Research from the military, space program, diving, mining and racing fields have greatly influenced fire technology today. When asked about future technology, the response was “Drones!”

Vintage fire dispatch desk



Who's New in LIR?

Meet Debbie Nicely – LIR Office Coordinator

By DOREEN GIESFELDT

How does one prepare for the job of LIR Office Coordinator? The position needs someone diligent and passionate about getting every detail correct. Perhaps if we look at Debbie's work life we will see what made her the best candidate for the position. Debbie's career centered around sales and marketing in mining and aggregate. Aggregate is a mixture of minerals or rock fragments used in making concrete, construction of highways and bridges, buildings, decorative stone for landscaping, sand for golf courses and many other areas. She worked with mining companies all over the world. As her skills grew so did her responsibilities. She became a department manager and project manager on various projects of building mining equipment. In a way she became an aggregate of skills.

It became apparent that Debbie's skills would be used immediately for the job ahead. It was a fascinating conversation with Debbie regarding how everyone gets the catalog brimming with everything LIR. It starts with instructors offering proposals. Next the proposals go to the curriculum committee. Once approved the compilation of the LIR catalog begins. Classrooms are booked. coordinators are chosen from the class list to check people in, distribute material for the class, and hand out evaluations. The evaluations become information for tweaking a class and provide constructive feedback for the instructors. Creating the catalog appears straightforward but is an endless amount of checking and rechecking until it gets sent out.

When asked where she sees LIR in ten years she had some great insights. She expects as we grow into a stronger force in the state, we will become more successful and an important resource for other organizations. By sharing our lessons learned, knowledge, and life experiences, we become a valuable source for guidance and support.

As for keeping mentally fit and physically active she is interested in writing, art, painting, golf and biking. And chasing after five grandchildren (by her own three children) keeps her running as well. Both

Debbie and her husband of 44 years love to travel and they have spent many vacations traversing by car to enjoy our beautiful country. Her last job was in Utah and they meandered and enjoyed the great scenery on their way to their final destination – Wisconsin, or as Debbie says, "home."



Debbie Nicely – LIR Office Coordinator

LIR On the Road



Wisconsin Historical Museum, Veterans Museum, Capital Brewery - Madison and Middleton March 23, 2017

By MARK AND MARILYN SMITH

Our first stop was at the Wisconsin Historical Museum. Paul and Dale-Harriet Rogovich presented *Fur Trade in Wisconsin and the Great Lakes* of years past. They dressed in period costumes. Their presentation included furs, artifacts and reference materials to examine which greatly enhanced their stories. Their passion for their subject matter was very apparent as they presented their stories. After the presentation there was time to browse through the museum.

Our second stop was the Wisconsin Veterans Museum for a guided tour of their facilities. We explored Wisconsin's involvement from the Civil War through Desert Storm with tour guides Amber and Erin. They gave us information about the different wars and answered questions from the group.

Lunch was at Imperial Garden. Many positive comments were made regarding the delicious food. LIR members expressed appreciation for the family style, which enabled them to taste a variety of foods. Lunch was followed by a tour of the Capital Brewery in Middleton. Samples of different beers were provided before and after the tour. The room was abuzz with many happy samplers and pretzel munchers!



Paul and Dale-Harriet Rogovich portraying fur trappers in the Great Lakes Region

Hearthstone House and History Museum at the Castle, Appleton, April 6, 2017

By KAREN COTTER

After several rainy, gloomy days, 38 LIR members headed to Appleton with sunshine and clear skies. Our first stop was at Hearthstone Historic House and Museum. Hearthstone was the first house in the world to be lit with hydroelectricity using the Edison system. The 1882 mansion was built for Henry and Cremora Rogers. Henry was the manager for Appleton Paper and Pulp Mill. This landmark home, built on the Fox River, gave us a glimpse of life in Victorian Appleton. Built with electricity, hot and cold running water and central heat, Hearthstone was a state of the art home at the time of its construction. The home included hand carved woodworking, stunning original stained glass windows, and inlaid wood floors. The newly restored 1880s kitchen was a utilitarian room where the household staff spent time and the family seldom ventured. The lower level of the home

houses a large exhibit dedicated to Thomas Edison's interest in hydroelectricity as well as many other ventures. Many of the LIR members tried pedaling a high-wheeler bicycle fast enough to generate enough electricity to light eight light bulbs. Our docent-led tour was full of historic details about the home as well as the families who lived there.



LIR member trying out the bicycle powered generator

Our next stop was lunch at Fratello's Restaurant, situated at the edge of the Fox River and adjacent to the dam. The restaurant is enclosed by glass windows that have a fantastic view of the fast rushing water. Perfect for picture taking. Lunch was served promptly and beautifully presented.

We next visited The History Museum at the Castle, an old Masonic building that has been taken over by the Appleton Historical Committee. The museum houses several exhibits. The most exciting and well known is the Harry Houdini exhibit. Houdini, born Ehrich Weiss, claimed to have been born in Appleton, though he was actually born in Budapest, Hungary. The exhibit houses many of the props and effects used in his shows. Laughter could be heard as LIR members experimented with the interactive displays. There were displays with handcuffs, shackles, and a straight jacket. There were displays to endure cold temperatures as well as lower blood pressure. Other exhibits at the museum were: Asylum Out of the Shadows, The Invisible Homeless, and Black Experiences in the Fox Cities.



LIR member trying one of Houdini's escape devices

LIR members especially enjoyed a little side trip for a scoop of ice cream at Kelly's Country Creamery on the way home. Kelly's Country Creamery has become nationally famous for their award winning ice cream. What a great day!

Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, Green Bay
May 23, 2017

By MARGIE WILHELM

What a wonderful trip to the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin! The weather was cold, but we could not have had a better day. Our step-on guide, Kirby Metoxen, is the Oneida Tribal Historian. He was so interesting! We learned about the fascinating but sad history of his tribe. The Oneida Indians were removed from their land in New York in 1822 and were promised the same acreage in Wisconsin. At age five, the children were sent to a distant Indian boarding school to learn the English ways. Most families could not afford to bring their children home for visits.

Kirby explained that because of Indian gaming, Oneida Nation of Wisconsin is doing quite well. We toured the reservation and saw modern homes, a hospital, a nursing home, and a retirement village. The renowned Oneida Nation K-8 Elementary and Middle School is shaped like a turtle. A former student came up with the idea. The turtle represents an Oneida creation story. We went to a traditional sweat lodge, a long house used for ceremonies, and Wisconsin's oldest Episcopal Church. While at the

church, Kirby sang a beautiful Indian hymn and discussed how their native language is disappearing.



Kirby Metoxen at Oneida sweat lodge

Lunch was served at the Thornberry Creek Restaurant on the golf course. LIR members were treated to an Indian drum and dance exhibition. After lunch, we drove past a herd of 175 buffalo and visited restored log homes from 100 years ago. The visit to the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin was very educational and captivating. There were so many positive comments by LIR members that hopefully this trip will be repeated in the future!



Indian drum & dance exhibition at Thornberry Creek

Great River Road Trip,
June 5-8, 2017

By LINDA GEVAERT

Forty-three LIR members participated in the 2017 LIR overnight trip down the Great River Road from Red Wing, Minn., to Prairie du Chien, Wis. First stop on our River Road adventure was the National Eagle Center in Wabasha, Minn. There we were

treated to an educational presentation about eagles in general and the purpose and role of the National Eagle Center. Was'aka, one of the resident bald eagles, served as model. He was found with a large tumor above one eye. The tumor was successfully removed; however, he is now blind in that eye and unable to survive in the wild. He demonstrated how pampered and cared for he is, along with three other eagle-mates. They know they will be fed; they don't have to fight for their food. Following the presentation, we had time to explore the center and visit all four eagles (one golden and three bald).



National Eagle Center, Wabasha, Minn.

From Wabasha we drove north to Red Wing, Minn., where we spent two nights. Our first activity the next day was a step-on guided tour of Red Wing. Our guide, Dorothy, was very knowledgeable about the history of Red Wing. This tour included the Sheldon Theatre. Afternoon stops included the Red Wing Stoneware Company where we had a guided tour of the factory (as well as shopping time), followed by a guided tour of the Red Wing Pottery Museum. Our stay in Red Wing concluded the next morning with a stop at the Red Wing Shoe Store where participants were free to explore the museum and shop. Several pairs of Red Wing shoes and boots found new homes.

We crossed back into Wisconsin where our first stop was at the birthplace of Laura Ingalls Wilder in Pepin. This is a reproduction of the cabin the Ingalls family lived in on the exact location of their farm. Lunch at the Pepin Pickle Factory on beautiful Lake

Pepin and a wine tasting at Elmaro Winery in Trempealeau, Wis., rounded out the day's activities.

Our last day took us down the River Road to Prairie du Chien where we had docent-led tours of Villa Louis. Across the Mississippi and up the bluff in McGregor, Iowa, to Pikes Peak State Park gave us a beautiful view of the confluence of the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers. Our last stop was at Route 1 Popcorn. Samples of popcorn were enjoyed by all and many bags of popcorn and other treats were purchased. I'm not sure how much actually made it back home!



Red Wing Stoneware and Pottery

LIR Scholarships Granted

LIR has awarded \$500 scholarships to Adela Wardlow de Velazquez and Dale Loper. Our best wishes to these two students as they pursue their chosen fields.



LIR Office

WCTC - Waukesha Campus

327 E. Broadway, Waukesha, WI 53186
 Phone: 262-695-3473 Fax: 262-521-5164
 Email: lir@wctc.edu

LIR Office Staff: Debbie, Mary, Nancy, Val

LIR Office Hours:

Monday	9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday	9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday	9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Thursday	9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Friday	Closed

LIR FACTS AND FIGURES

Fall 2017

606 LIR members

39 volunteer instructors

54 courses offered

Course topics: History, Health, Gardening, Arts & Crafts, Baking, Environment, Literature, Writing, Religion, Cultures, Architecture, Forensics, Finance, Technology, Genealogy, and many more.

WCTC FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO LIR MEMBERS

Omni Tech Computer Lab - WCTC College Center

Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

WCTC Library – WCTC College Center

Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Dental Hygiene Clinic

September – May. Complete dental hygiene services available. Supervision by a licensed dentist and hygienist. Appointment on a waiting list basis.

Style and Class Salon

Full service salon for men and women.

Reduced rates.

Appointments needed – call 262-691-5270.

Automotive Shop

Car maintenance – restrictions apply.

Call 262-691-5505 Monday – Friday 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

LIR Board Members & Committee

Chairpersons 2017-2018

PRESIDENT	Chuck Gevaert
VICE PRESIDENT	Jim Schaefer
SECRETARY	Barbara Nagy
TREASURER	Matthew Corby
PAST PRESIDENT	Sue Sullivan
DELEGATE-AT-LARGE	Don Lamb
DELEGATE-AT-LARGE	Sharon Bashaw
MEMBERSHIP	Mary Alice White
SPECIAL EVENTS CHAIR	Linda Gevaert
CURRICULUM CO-CHAIR	Winnie Mading
CURRICULUM CO-CHAIR	Lorelei Schober
PROMOTIONS CHAIR	Christian Nagy
WCTC/LIR LIAISON	Timothy Holloway



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