



Connecting...  
People, Community,  
and Knowledge

# ALRI NEWSLETTER

FALL 2006

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## ALRI Contributes to Gentry Scholarship Fund



ALRI President John Sprott presents Arlington Public Schools (APS) Superintendent Robert Smith, left, a \$1,500 check for the Janice Gentry Memorial Scholarship Fund. Mike Morton, right, Director of APS's Career, Technical and Adult Education (CTAE) looks on. ALRI and the Gentry family established the fund in 2003 and make matching annual contributions.

"Janice Gentry was one of the earliest supporters of and advocates for ALRI and it is extremely fitting that we are able to make this contribution in her name," said Sprott. "The administration of this fund within the Arlington Public School's CTAE is also appropriate in that Janice was an essential manager of CTAE Programming."

The funds are allotted to worthy individuals to cover tuition, testing, textbooks and/or registration fees to obtain employment skills or academic credentials through CTAE.

## Think Spring Classes



As ALRI's fall 2006 semester winds down, the Academic Programs Committee is already focused on March 2007 when the spring term will get under way. The term will run from March 5 through May 25, 2007.

The spring course catalog will be distributed in February, with the first classes beginning the week of March 5. Members can learn more about the courses and meet the instructors at the spring open house at 9 a.m. on Friday, February 16, at George Mason University.

Among the new courses already confirmed are one on 21<sup>st</sup> century Russia and another on ornithology. Music lovers will be pleased to learn that John Edward Niles will return next spring to teach a course on Wagner. If you have any course and/or instructor suggestions, please send them to co-chairs: Joan Reed (jbr10s@mac.com) or Bob Howe (bob-joanhowe@verizon.net).

More information will be available in the February ALRI newsletter and on the ALRI website, [www.ArlingtonLRI.org](http://www.ArlingtonLRI.org).

**Check Out ALRI Special Events, page 3**

## President's Report

The fall term is in full swing with the highest course enrollments to date! Thanks to the continued fine work of the Academic Programs Committee an excellent, growing, group of volunteer instructors and the many new ALRI members who have joined ALRI. The Special Events Committee continues to develop new events for members and the ever-popular "Meet the Author Series" has provided some fascinating authors to discuss their work. I hope you are enjoying these courses and events as much as I am.

In early October ALRI moved its location from the small cubicle in the Clarendon Education Center to a very nice office just around the corner from the front desk on the third floor (Room 304). This is thanks to the continuing generosity of the Arlington Public Schools. We are in the process of purchasing/renting office equipment and hope to have the office fully functioning by the end of November. It promises to be a good place to work. So volunteer a little of your time to help cover some of the office duties.

As you will see elsewhere in this newsletter, we still need volunteers in some key ALRI functions and there is always the need for more people to help out in all of the committees.

See you in a class or at a special event.

— John Sprott



If you have skills and time to share, let one of ALRI's seven committees be the beneficiary. Contact ALRI volunteer liaison Ann Kelleran – [Kellerann@juno.com](mailto:Kellerann@juno.com) or 703-931-8528 – to join the committee that best matches your interests.

**Office Management Support Committee.** Provides assistance at ALRI's CEC office with general office work for three hours/one day a week. The committee needs an additional volunteer so that the office can open five days a week from noon to 3 p.m.

**Academic Programs Committee.** Helps find courses and instructors, develops course descriptions for the catalog, reviews course evaluations. The committee urgently needs some new volunteers if it is to continue providing a large and varied course selection each term. Eight to 10 two-hour meetings March-June for fall term and August-November for spring term.

**Information Technology Support Committee.** Develops and maintains the ALRI data base and web site; processes membership applications/course registrations. Some computer skills required, especially knowledge of MS Windows. Three-to-four data entry sessions of two to two-and-a-half hours, twice a year during class registration.

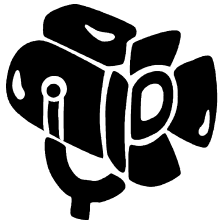
**Membership Committee.** Implements all aspects of recruitment, sets up the annual membership meeting and the semi-annual open house, provides hospitality for all public ALRI functions and social events, oversees volunteer services, and facilitates organization of clubs. One one-hour meeting per month, plus additional time on specific activities, such as hospitality, clubs, the farmers' market, the county fair, etc.

**Organization Committee.** Oversees organizational governance documents; reviews proposed contracts; oversees the content of the annual membership meeting.

**Publications Committee.** Coordinates and produces all printed materials for ALRI (catalog, newsletter, brochures, flyers, articles). A committee chair, catalog editor, general copy editors, newsletter editor and proofreaders are needed.

**Special Events Committee.** Develops, coordinates and implements two-to-three events each six months. Need those with ideas about and/or connections for possible venues, exhibits, lecturers, authors, etc. One two-hour meeting each month, plus 10-30 hours total per year setting up events.

For more information or to join a committee, contact Ann Kelleran, volunteer liaison, at [Kellerann@juno.com](mailto:Kellerann@juno.com) or 703-931-8528.



## Special Events Highlight ALRI Calendar

ALRI has scheduled four events for the remainder of 2006, and seven events are already planned for 2007. Registrations are required for most events. You can learn about new events and get updates on these by going to the ALRI website, [www.ArlingtonLRI.org](http://www.ArlingtonLRI.org).

### **Friday, December 1 – Tour of the Anderson House**

Experience the splendor of Gilded Age Washington on a guided tour of this Beaux Arts style mansion, the Anderson House. Located on Massachusetts Avenue's Embassy Row, the house was the winter home of Mr. and Mrs. Larz Anderson III from 1905-1937. With the Andersons' collection of decorative and fine arts, it provided the venue for entertaining elite Washington, U.S. presidents and kings. As well as a museum housing the Anderson collection, the house is the national headquarters of the Society of the Cincinnati, the nation's oldest patriotic organization.

1:15 p.m., Anderson House. Free but limited to 20 participants.

### **Monday, December 4 – Tour of the Mansion on O Street \*\* FILLED \*\***

Picture an elegantly wrapped present with exquisite surprises inside. The Mansion on O Street is a gift to the senses – a showcase of varying architectural, artistic and design periods from Victorian to art deco/avant garde.

Tour begins at 12 noon. Fee is \$20 per person, lunch included, and is non-refundable. Registration limited to 25 participants.

### **Sunday, December 10 – 'Tis the Season: Annual Holiday Concert**

Celebrate the holiday season with the adult and children's choirs of the Alexandria Choral Society with this repeat of last year's success. The concert will feature the winner of the 2006 Winter Carol Competition.

4 p.m., George Washington Masonic National Memorial, Alexandria. The ticket price will be announced on the ALRI website.

### **Friday, January 19, 2007 – State Department Diplomatic Reception Rooms**

Guided tour of the State Department Diplomatic Reception Rooms, which are used for official government functions. U.S. Department of State, 23rd Street N.W.; entrance between C and D Streets. 10:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Tour starts promptly at 10:30 a.m. Latecomers will *not* be accommodated. Registration required by December 15 and must include passport or driver's license number.

Limited to 25.

### **Monday, January 22, 2007 – Art Conservation**

Lecture by Bart J.C. Devolder, Andrew W. Mellon Fellow in Painting Conservation. Presentation will include examples of before and after restoration.

3 p.m. Arlington Central Library. Free, all are welcome, no need to register.

### **Friday, March 2, 2007 – Walt Disney-Tishman Collection of African Art**

Join ALRI in an inaugural tour of the world-renowned Walt Disney-Tishman Collection of African Art, a recent gift to the Smithsonian Museum of African Art.

11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., National Museum of African Art, 950 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. Limited to 20 participants.

### **Sunday, March 11, 2007 – Evening Vespers Choral Concert**

Enjoy an afternoon of Russian vespers sung by the 130 voices of the Alexandria Choral Society and the Capitol Hill Chorale. The program will include the great Vespers of Rachmaninoff and the Requiem of Herbert Howells.

4 p.m., Callaway Chapel of Episcopal High School, 3901 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria. Registration required and limited to 25 participants. Discounted tickets (\$10) will be reserved for those who registered and will be available at the concert. Payment is to be made directly to the Alexandria Choral Society. Reservations deadline: March 7, 2007.

*More Special Events on Page 4*

*More Special Events continued from Page 3*

**Friday, March 30, 2007 – Tour of Arlington Cemetery**

ALRI member and professional tour guide, Herb Schaefer will lead a tour at 10 a.m.

**Thursday, April 19, 2007 – National Symphony Orchestra Open Rehearsal**

Jiri Belohlavek will conduct the National Symphony Orchestra with Christian Tetzlaff on violin. Selections include works by Dvorak, Mozart, Smetana and Janacek.

10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Kennedy Center Concert Hall. Guests should arrive by 9:30 a.m. and *must* be in their seats by 9:45 a.m. Limited to 25 participants.

**Friday, April 27, 2007 – Celebration of the “Real” George Washington**

Join ALRI on an introductory tour of the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center at George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Features art, artifacts and newly developed interactive exhibits and films that present the father of our country as an individual whose life and attributes are relevant to the 21st century.

10 a.m. Limited to 20 registrants.

**There are three ways to register:**

- Online – [www.ArlingtonLRI.org](http://www.ArlingtonLRI.org)
- Phone – 703-228-2144 and press “3” for Special Events
- Email – [ALRI@ArlingtonLRI.org](mailto:ALRI@ArlingtonLRI.org) (Use “Special Event reservation” in the subject line.)



## Going Green

In September a group of ALRI members had a well-organized tour of the county's new “green” Walter Reed Community Center located near the intersection of Columbia Pike and S. Walter Reed Drive.

The center is ecologically friendly, with architecture and building materials selected to enhance natural light and reduce energy consumption. The sloped roof has dirt and plantings to provide insulation to the interior space and reduce rain runoff. Also noteworthy are its inviting appearance, pleasant spaces, nice views and attractive, well-chosen colorful furnishings. The gym's flooring of bamboo, a quickly renewable resource that is fast becoming a venue of choice, provides a wonderful playing surface.

—Bonnie Becker

## Great Composers Through the Ages: Genius or Innovation?



Mozart

Sylvia Alimena, a musician with the National Symphony Orchestra, is also the music director and conductor of the Eclipse Chamber Orchestra, McLean Orchestra and Brass of Peace. With obviously a lot on her plate, she found time to speak to 70 ALRI members at the Arlington Central Library in August.

I learned more from her in one hour than whatever remnants of Music Appreciation 101 still exist in my brain. With her hand-held CD player she demonstrated the evolution of music from the chanting of monks in the medieval age to the music of modern times, each era expanding on elements which came before. She tuned our ears to what it was about the great composers such as Bach, Mozart and Beethoven that elevated them to the genius realm.

Alimena became second horn in the National Symphony Orchestra in 1985. Her conducting career began in 1990 with the Brass of Peace, a scholarship program for talented high school musicians. She recently completed nine years as music director and conductor of the Friday Morning Music Club Orchestra.



Beethoven

— Leanne Peters





## CLUB NEWS



## Connect to an ALRI Club

ALRI's six clubs are available to provide members further opportunities to explore their special interests. Clubs usually meet monthly.

**Travel Club** – First Wednesday of the month, 2:30 p.m., Langston Senior Center. Contact Sharon Schoumacher at (703) 522-9014 or [sharon@earthwave.net](mailto:sharon@earthwave.net).

**Cinema Club** – Monthly movie date set to accommodate members' schedules. Contact Judy Yavner at [jyavner@mindspring.com](mailto:jyavner@mindspring.com).

**Current Issues Club** – Third Tuesday of the month, 1:30 p.m., Lubber Run Community Center. Contact Jim Walsh at (703) 920-1709 or [walsh22204@aol.com](mailto:walsh22204@aol.com).

**Bridge Club** – Monthly on irregular schedule in members' homes. Contact Bernice Foster at [fosterbf@aol.com](mailto:fosterbf@aol.com).

**Book Club** – Second Monday, every other month, at Arlington County Central Library or in member's home, 1:30-3 p.m. Contact Marge Alia (noting ALRI Book Club in subject line) at [Malia04@comcast.net](mailto:Malia04@comcast.net).

**Ethnic Lunch Club** – Usually last Thursday of the month. Contact ALRI, (703) 228-2144, choose "5," clubs option and leave message for coordinator Arlene Kigin.



### Touring Italy: *That's Amore*

Members of ALRI's Travel Club 2006 tour to Florence and Venice pause for a picture in the courtyard of the Glass Museum on Venice's Murano Island.

## Join the Travelers



Members of the ALRI Travel Club invite you to join them on a river cruise trip in Russia next summer. The 16-day trip with Grand Circle Travel is called "Russian Waterways."

The itinerary includes four nights in a Moscow hotel, five nights on the river cruise ship and three nights in a hotel in St. Petersburg.

If 10 travel together, each person will receive a rebate of about \$350 before the July 19, 2007, departure. For details, go to the Grand Circle website ([www.GCT.com](http://www.GCT.com)) or contact Sharon Schoumacher at 703-522-9014 or [sharon@earthwave.net](mailto:sharon@earthwave.net).



## Notes From the Administrator

Office administration has never been so exciting! ALRI has moved from our tiny cubicle to a spacious office at the Clarendon Education Center. Finally we can have multiple ALRI volunteers working at the CEC without bumping elbows, noses and knees! With five desks, one meeting table, three printers and two (soon to be four) computers behind a lockable door, ALRI's office is poised to service its members better than ever.

Our friendly office management support group will greet members as they enter the office in Room 304 just around the corner from the third floor elevators. We are conveniently located near the restrooms, the water fountain and the emergency exit – we know what makes an office well-situated! The office even has a large window to keep tabs on the weather and to keep us cheerful as we work.

The information technology support volunteers will have space and equipment and privacy to maintain our database and website while the publications desktop publishing team lays out our newsletter and catalog across the room. Committee chairs will be able at last to store ALRI materials in a central location (there seemed to be no limit to how many

ALRI signs, files and flyers we expected board members to retain in their homes and car trunks).

Even the administrator will get to spend more time at the CEC now that my desktop computer has moved from its summer home to the new office. Never fear, I will be splitting my time between our office at GMU and the CEC. No one wants me to get too comfortable!

The change has given us some bumpy days, so I do apologize if we were a bit slow responding to your calls and emails in October. We had an interesting couple of days getting computers and phones moved and, more importantly, working. Our reception hours remain the same for now: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from noon to 3 p.m. The office is locked at other times. We encourage you to contact us during those posted hours for a "live person" but phone messages and emails are always welcome. Our postal address, phone number, website and email address remain unchanged as does our willingness to make ALRI an ever better institute.

— Marjorie Varner



**ALRI's  
New  
Space**

# Welcome New ALRI Members

Bernard J. Alter  
 Mary L. Arnett  
 Gary Arnold  
 James August  
 Douglas Baker  
 Jocelyn A. Barbour  
 Theodore Bially  
 Barbara W. Blahuta  
 Delores R. Boyer  
 Clare S. Brewster  
 Joan J. Britt  
 Sandra G. Bryan  
 Elizabeth S. Campbell  
 Frank M. Carroll  
 Carmen E. Chapin  
 Joanna Chusid  
 Grahame C. Coffey  
 Rita Cohen  
 Julia Connally  
 Martin Convisser  
 Colette Convisser  
 Elizabeth M. Cordes  
 Judith M. Deane  
 Richard F. DeVaughan  
 Glorian Donegan  
 Zita S. Drillings  
 John J. Dunne  
 Betty L. Edmiston  
 Janice Elmore

Leslie A. Erwin  
 Vicki A. Florian  
 Ann Friedman  
 Helen Getter  
 Nell Gibson  
 A. L. Gibson  
 Marjorie M. Glass  
 Sally G. Goldstein  
 Ruth M. Goltzer  
 Deborah Grandy  
 Marianne M. Graves  
 Nancy A. Gray  
 Marilyn J. Greene  
 Jane P. Guiliano  
 Sue Halladay  
 Kathleen A. Hasse  
 Thomas K. Healy  
 Lucia M. Heard  
 Edward J. Heaton  
 Mary Jane Henderson  
 Jane Hersee-Lee  
 Mandy R. Holt  
 Lynda Horvath  
 Stephen L. Isaacson  
 Marilyn R. Jacanin  
 Anastasia W. Joelson  
 Richard Juhnke  
 Winifred C. Kang  
 Dorothy Kinzey

Carole Kolstad  
 Kevin Lam  
 Ineke Lavoie  
 Jim C. Lawson  
 Leslie A. Lenny  
 Marcy Leverenz  
 Georgia C. Lindroth  
 E. Mark Linton  
 Sarah Linton  
 William T. Loder  
 David S. Lubs  
 John J. Maher  
 Diane S. Marton  
 Sara E. Melendez  
 Elizabeth T. Miller  
 John R. Moore  
 Ruth E. Mueller  
 Rolf H. Mueller  
 Jerome C. Park  
 Mildred A. Patterson  
 Julie Phillips  
 Vicki Ratcliffe  
 Patricia L. Rensch  
 Kenneth C. Rogers  
 Margaret Schaefer  
 Jane T. Schmidt  
 Richard Schwartzbard  
 Rita R. Siebenaler  
 Bradley Smith  
 Jacalyn M. Stein  
 Karen M. Stevenson  
 Seymour B. Stiss  
 Sara L. Stone  
 Anna D. Sullivan  
 Katherine E. Sullivan  
 Richard Sullivan  
 Jo S. Uehara  
 Bonnie J. Ulman  
 Anita Wallgren  
 Miles G. Wedeman  
 Martha H. Wedeman  
 Linda Weinstock  
 Dana G. White  
 William C. Whitesell  
 Donald B. Williams  
 Jane Winans  
 Katherine Wood  
 Earle Young  
 Riley M. Yriart

## ALRI Newsletter

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### Arlington Learning in Retirement Institute

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## **ACADEMIC FREEDOM POLICY**

As a learning organization, ALRI subscribes to the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) principle of Academic Freedom: "All views should be respected regardless of their conformance with generally, or currently, accepted views."

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## **Arlington Learning in Retirement Institute**

ALRI offers college-level non-credit daytime courses, lectures, special events, and activities to help meet the continuing educational and social needs of any interested persons over fifty years of age. ALRI is supported, governed, and financed by its members. ALRI is a non-profit, equal opportunity organization without regard to gender, race, color, religion, national origin or disability.

*Affiliations:* George Mason University, Arlington Public Schools Adult Education Division,  
Arlington County Office of Senior Adult Programs, Sunrise Senior Living at the Jefferson,  
Elderhostel Network