MAC Chairman’s Report

By Stuart Farber, M.D.

The fall semester is well underway and 35 new members are enjoying the LLI after another very successful Welcome Week. The LLI’s director, Linda Maurice, put together a stellar program that represented the semester’s class offerings. The Welcome Week Committee, chaired by Lee Sacks, Jill Cohen, and Moe Weiner, organized the events to maximize a positive experience for potential and current members. All of us would like to thank the many volunteers who gave their time to make the event so successful.

I have heard from many members that the program’s quality has increased this year. Some well-received speakers from last year have returned with multi-lecture series. Others, who were less popular, have not returned. In addition, some new members have offered thoughtful contributions to the class discussion, enhancing the quality of the program. The director’s decision on which speakers to retain is based on members’ input, so I urge everyone to get involved in speaker evaluations, either electronically or on paper, to register your preferences.

Those of us who audited courses at the university have completed our classes for the fall semester. As we now enjoy LLI classes, we join new LLI members that have taken advantage of the Semiannual University Bus Tour arranged by Moe Weiner and Dan Smith. Most of us attended the Winter Holiday Dinner in December that was organized by Jill Cohen. All of these activities, combined with new field trips, opportunities to get involved with the LLI Newsletter and the LLI E-Valuations, and the options of participating in all NSU functions ranging from concerts to Shark sports ensures something interesting for everyone. We hope to continue to increase enrollment and enjoy the new, enlarged space in the spring. If anyone has any thoughts on how to enhance the program, please approach any member of the MAC with your ideas.

It’s an exciting time to be a member of the LLI. The quality of our offerings will lead to great success. I think that our little jewel in the rough will not be a secret for very much longer.

LLI Coming Attractions

Spin, Doublespeak, and Cover-Up: Some of History’s Greatest Lies
February 7, 14, 21, and 28 — 10:00-11:30 a.m.
Presenter—Kurt Stone

Oscar 2013 Preview
February 19 • 10:00—11:30 a.m.
Presenter—Stephen Alford, Ph.D.

American Jewish History; Middle East Wars
April, 1, 8, 22, 24 — 12:30—2:00 p.m.
Presenter—Ira Sheskin, Ph.D.

Antebellum Era and the Road to Civil War
Tuesdays, April 9, 16, 23, and 30
10:00-11:30 a.m.
Presenter—Marc Newman
From the Director’s Desk  
*By Linda Maurice*

Welcome to the winter session of the LLI 2012-13 academic year.

It’s hard to believe we are in January as the first three months of the school year have flown by. It was an exciting beginning to our year as we welcomed many new members, tried out new topics, and learned from returning and new lecturers.

One of the most exciting events has been the expansion of our existing LLI classroom. As our membership has grown over the last few years, so too has our need for a larger space. We thank George Hanbury, Ph.D., NSU president, Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., M.Sc., FACOFP dist., dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine, Cecilia Rokusek, Ed.D., R.D., NSU-COM assistant dean of education, planning, and research, as well as a long list of NSU staff members and administrators for helping us to reach this milestone.

As always, our much appreciated, dedicated, and energetic MAC has been helping in any way possible.

The upcoming six months promise to be as exciting as the previous six. Please be adventurous and try out new topics and lecturers or get involved in a committee and audit an NSU class.

Please take the time to explore and make the most of this wonderful relationship.

*(Don’t forget to like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and watch snippets of our lectures on YouTube. If you need help finding these sights online, we are here at your service.)*

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**LLI Mission Statement**

Nova Southeastern University’s Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) provides a vibrant educational environment for mature adults in South Florida. Programs promote intellectual stimulation, physical well-being, and social growth that enrich the lives of its members and the community.
Random Thoughts
By Barry Katz

- Why do we wash our bath towels; aren’t we clean when we use them?
- If Florida lizards’ tails come off when grabbed to escape predators, why do they regenerate to allow the whole procedure to happen again?
- Why isn’t phonetic spelled the way it sounds?
- If heaven is above us and hell is below, and earth is a rotating sphere, where the hell are we?
- If God created man in his own image, wouldn’t we all look alike?
- For years I thought the word far-fetched was a Yiddish word.
- I once told an employee that he speaks in too many double negatives. He replied, “I ain’t not using no double negatives.” I said, “You’re right, that was a triple.”
- I got on a talking scale. It said, “one of you is going to have to get off.”
- If a soldier survives mustard gas and pepper spray, would he be a seasoned veteran?
- Guys, have you noticed you’re washing more face and combing less hair?
- Sometimes I look at my watch three consecutive times, but I couldn’t tell you the time.
- Don’t you think the freezer deserves a light as well?
- MapQuest should start with number four. I know how to get out of my own neighborhood.
- My eldest daughter returned home after her first day of kindergarten. My wife asked her if she learned anything. She replied, “Everything. Do I have to go back tomorrow?”
- Who coughed up the word phlegm? And why isn’t it spelled the way it sounds?
- If Tuesday Weld married a divorced Frederick March, she’d be Tuesday, March the Second.

Movie Review: Lessons from the film
Finding Nemo
By Dennis J. Simunek

Viewing this movie in the new 3-D format with my five-year-old granddaughter Sabrina was an enlightening experience. I thought I knew all about the movie because I had seen it years ago. The story was simple: A clownfish dad loses his only son when he swims away from the school. Divers on a boat scoop up the son in a net. The son ends up in an aquarium located in a dentist’s office in Australia.

But when I saw this movie again, I saw all the interactions throughout the story as real life lessons. First, there was the bond between the clownfish father and son (Where was mom? Was this a statement about clownfish and male dominance?) The protective nature of the father seemed to smother the adventurous spirit of his son. Second, what motivated the father to take such great risks to find his son? He bravely swam in unknown waters, encountering many dangers including predators like stinging jellyfish. A whale shark swallowed the father clownfish during the adventure. Third, what role does Dora the female angelfish play? With no short-term memory, she always forgets what she initially learns. Luckily, she gets a printed clue to lead her to Nemo. Finally, what does it mean to be a hero? When word gets back to the fish that the Dad has endured many hardships and traveled long distances in uncharted seas, he is considered a hero. But is the real hero the tiger fish who encourages Nemo to find an escape from their aquarium prison?

The lessons I learned from viewing this movie are that one’s fear and apprehensions can be overcome by taking actions with loving conviction. Courage can be fueled by friendly companions, even though they, like Dora, may be imperfect. There are many perceived forms of heroism whether the results are successful or not. The most important lesson was the resolution of the difference between being protective and being brave enough to support an individual’s achievement of awareness under the canopy of love. “Love conquers all, as long as it allows another the necessary means of their own expression.”
Happy January and February Birthdays
(Let us know when YOUR birthday is so it can be added to the list.)

January
Herb Cohen
Rhoda Duchon
Ruth Lazarus
Rashi Reish
Diana Remick
Dennis Simunek
Daniel Smith

February
Richard Ascher
Lucille Cohen
Iris Debb
George Edwards
Arnold Pakula
Steve Schrock

Help Wanted
The LLI Newsletter is looking for interested volunteers to help coordinate and edit the publication. Please see a MAC representative or the LLI office for additional information.

LLI Tribute Fund
HONOR • REMEMBER • SUPPORT
- General Fund -
  Mark Welch

- Scholarship Fund -
  Heike Dose (In honor of NSU’s 2020 plan)
  Ken Dose (In honor of NSU’s 2020 plan)

- Speakers Fund -
  Linda Maurice (In memory of Dr. Edward Keith)

Writers and Editors—Winter 2013 Issue
Newsletter Editor/Graphic Design - Linda Maurice
Copy Editor - NSU-COM Office of Medical Communications and Public Relations
SeniorNet at the LLI - Gerri Sant
Writer’s Corner - Barry Katz and Dennis Simunek
Director’s Report - Linda Maurice
MAC Chairperson’s Report - Stuart Farber, M.D.