CAN WE BE FRIENDS WITH ANIMALS? – This May 4 presentation, delivered by Professor Ben Mulvey, was a surprisingly enjoyable analysis of the relationship between the higher and lower representatives in the animal kingdom. Dog and cat lovers gained new understanding on how their pets communicate through body language and behaviors.

ISLAM AND FUNDAMENTALISM – On May 16, Professor Dustin Berna led a discussion which revealed that the death of Osama bin Laden does not have any significant impact on who is “winning” the war on terror. Real solutions require going to the sources of dissatisfaction. Many believe that America supports various Middle East leaders who suppress their peoples and turns a blind eye to the unequal distribution of justice and wealth.

EXPLORING RELIGIOUS BELIEFS: EAST AND WEST – On May 23, Rabbi Robert Frazin talked about how various religious beliefs in God provide answers to questions posed by human beings throughout the ages such as: “Where do we come from?” “What should we do while we are here?” “Why is there so much suffering?” What is our ultimate destiny?” He explained the fundamental concepts of Buddhism, its practices, and beliefs.

These May classes are only a sampling of the thought-provoking offerings at the LLI. CHECK OUT WHAT WE HAVE COMING FOR THE SUMMER.

LLI Coming Attractions

The summer program schedule will be held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Regular classes will still be offered 10-11:30 a.m. (with some afternoon extras) and will include some of our favorite offerings as well as new and challenging topics:

- SOCRATES CAFÉ
  with Valerie Pellegrini – June 1, 15, and 29
- GREAT BOOKS
  with Edith Bergman – June 15 from 12:30-2:00 p.m.
- WRITING AND MEMOIR WORKSHOPS
  with Maxine Jordan – June 1, 8, and 29 from 12:30-2:00 p.m.
- UNDERSTANDING ANXIETY
  with Dr. Michelle Channing – June 7
- WORLD UPDATE
  with Tim Dixon – June 9
- DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION 101
  with Stephanie Murphy – June 14
- ISSUES IN ELDER LAW
  with Michelle Hollister – June 21
- THE AGING BRAIN
  with Leanne Boucher – June 23
- MEDIA AND POLITICS
  with Donald Lasky – June 16 and 30
- MOVIE VIEWINGS AND DISCUSSIONS
  Ninotchka – June 8
  October Sky – June 22
- PLASTER CRAFT
  with Dennis Simunek – June 28

Fitness instructors Barbara and Lourdes will lead group exercise on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Please look for weekly schedules to see other featured lectures and workshops that are yet to be determined.

Printed schedules are available at the center, or you can access the online calendar at: http://www.nova.edu/cal/ilr/webevent.cgi

The LLI Newsletter is a product of the LLI Members Advisory Committee. Content is provided by Dennis Simunek.
PETEY KALETTA, LLI MEMBER

Petey Kaletta raised four children. Now adults, her children live in four different states—South Carolina, Virginia, Ohio, and Alabama. Kaletta, who has nine grandchildren, has lived in nine different states and went to three different high schools. In Ohio, she found work as a safety trainer. During her career as a labor management consultant, her mission was to decrease workplace accidents. A highlight of her career was being recognized as Safety Professional of the Year. But, after this chapter in her life, she sought adventure by joining the Peace Corps.

“The most life-changing experience I had was working as a teacher-trainer at Teacher’s College in Uganda. I was evacuated with other trainers when tourists were killed in Birundi,” explained Kaletta, who later returned to the country when it was reopened to volunteers. “These experiences have contributed to my appreciation of all people and communities.”

After retiring, she moved from Ohio to Florida to be with her son and daughter-in-law when their second child was born. In her new Florida community, Kaletta has served as president of the League of Women Voters of Broward County and as an alumni adviser for the Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority at Florida International University. Kaletta says she joined the LLI because she wanted to learn, be exposed to new ideas, and expand her education.

LAURA FINLEY, PH.D., LLI INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Laura Finley recently gave a lecture to the LLI group that shed light into crime in the United States. She is a sociologist and an expert in criminology who does not accept or reject any one theory. During her lecture, she discussed several theories and pointed out why certain systems of punishment do not, in fact, deter crime.

Dr. Finley, who is on a first-name basis with LLI members, truly has a passion for what she does. “I love teaching,” she said. “Any age, any time frame, any group.” Teaching runs in her family; in fact, Dr. Finley has a twin sister in another state who also is a teacher. She has written several books, but she says her first book was the most significant because she coauthored it with her husband when their daughter was still a baby.

Dr. Finley knew life would be different when she entered a program to earn her Ph.D. But soon after making the commitment for the required work, something totally unexpected happened: She discovered she was pregnant. “Thank heavens I found out after, not before,” she laughed.

LLI members are certainly glad she stuck with it. “It is always a pleasure to teach this group,” said Dr. Finley, who hopes to return to the LLI in the fall.