

# Golden Opportunities

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 1

THE NEWSLETTER FOR SOUTHERN ILLINOIS LEARNING IN RETIREMENT (SILIR)

August 2023

## August 16 Meeting

### • **Location:**

Grace United Methodist Church  
220 N. Tower Rd.,  
Carbondale

- 9:30 - Coffee Social Hour
- 10:30 - Meeting and Program

### **August Greeters:**

- Betsy Bishop
- Pat Racana
- Sylvia Drake

**President:** Gary Hartlieb

## AT A GLANCE

### Monthly Meetings:

August 16, 2023  
September 20, 2023  
October 18, 2023  
November 15, 2023  
December—no meeting

## QUESTIONS?

Email SILIR at  
silir@siu.edu  
or call  
618/536-7751



**S.I. Learning  
in Retirement**

Visit the SI Learning in Retirement  
web page at:

[conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir](http://conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir)

## August Presenter: Dr. David Gibson on Forensic Botany



Dr. David Gibson is a Professor of Plant Biology at SIUC in the School of Biological Sciences. He teaches courses in botany and ecology, including Forensic Botany - the focus of his presentation. He conducts ecological research and has published over 150 research papers and 4 books including *Planting Clues: How Plants Solve Crimes*. Originally from Great Britain he's a passionate fan of the Premier League football club Brighton and Hove Albion. Copies of Dr. David Gibson's book, *Planting Clues*, will be available for sale after the presentation.

Please check out our Facebook page at **Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement** to see what we've been up to and read what's happening around town.



Our Golden Opportunities newsletter is published online as well as in print and can be found at [conferenceservices@siu.edu/silir](mailto:conferenceservices@siu.edu/silir). The online version is in color and you might enjoy seeing pictures and graphics in color, so please check out the link!

"If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the Newsletter, please email them to [silir@siu.edu](mailto:silir@siu.edu). Your feedback is greatly appreciated!"

## Special Accommodations

SILIR members needing a special accommodation to participate in a SILIR activity must notify SIU Conference and Scheduling Office 618/ 536-7751 two weeks prior to the published date of an activity or at the time of registration for a trip. SILIR will make reasonable efforts to accommodate those with special needs. SILIR is not required to provide services of a personal nature so if you need assistance of a personal nature during a SILIR activity, it is your responsibility to provide the personal assistant.

## SILIR Monthly Interest Groups

### Musical of the Month Interest Group

This group meets on the **last Friday of the month** to watch and discuss a musical or movie musical.

The next meeting will be

**August 25, 2023**

at Epiphany Lutheran Church.  
12:15-3:30 pm



### Monthly Book Club

The Book Club meets on the **3rd Monday of the month at 9:30am** at Epiphany Lutheran Church on West Chautauqua.

**August 15, 2023**

August's book selection is

TBA

### Monthly Lunch Discussion Group

Members are invited to join this group to meet monthly to share lunch and open conversation.

**August 24, 2023  
11:45 am**

Location:  
Carbondale, IL



### Time to Renew Your Membership

To continue to receive monthly SILIR Golden Opportunities Newsletters, be sure to renew your membership today!!

**Membership in SILIR runs from July 1 - June 30 the following year. Sign up now for the benefits of membership: classes, speakers, interest groups and access to trips. Membership dues are \$25.00 and can be paid by completing the registration form on the back page of the newsletter and mailing a check to Events and Outreach or with your credit card by calling Events and Outreach at (618)536-7751.**

The cost of membership remains the same as it has been for over 10 years, thanks to the many teachers and speakers who provide "life-long learning" to our members with little compensation. Below is a list of current members who have given so freely of their time to teach SILIR courses. Be sure to thank them for their efforts:

John Pohlmann  
Gary Hartlieb  
Fran Oros  
Suzanne Schmitz  
Dennis Leitner  
Brian Butler  
Jim Carl  
Ken Buzbee  
Mary Pohlmann

Mary Alice Kimmel  
Leo Gher  
John Hooker  
John Jackson  
Thomas Mitchell  
Dick Matthews  
Jim Sylwester  
Anita Hutton  
Walter Metz

Paul Mundschenk  
Rose Bender  
David Pellow  
Roland Person  
Parviz Sanjabi  
Roberta Pier  
Dona Bachan  
Mary Lamb  
Arlene Pelow

## SILIR Fall Session Classes

### September 11- October 13, ( Session I)

#### "The Golden Age of Narrative American Network Radio, 1920s-1950s"

**Instructor: Walter Metz**

**Registration Fee: \$15.00**

**Monday (s)**

**9:30-11:30 am**

**Epiphany Lutheran Church**

#### **Course description:**

We will study how and why American network radio from the late 1920s through the early 1950s served as an important insertion of popular culture into American households, conditions which make sitcoms, soap operas, and mystery shows different from public-based cinema screenings. Our case studies will be the gothic horror of Arch Oboler (from the CBS Experimental Radio Playhouse), the work of Orson Welles (especially that beyond "The War of the Worlds"), and Edward R. Murrow's radio journalism (particularly from the Battle of Berlin and the liberation of concentration camps). Given my expertise in sitcom studies, we will focus on My Favorite Husband and, most intensively, on The Jack Benny Program.

### September 11- October 13, ( Session I)

#### "Classic Short Stories"

**Instructor: Beth Lordan**

**Registration Fee: \$15.00**

**Monday (s)**

**1:30-3:30 pm**

**Epiphany Lutheran Church**

#### **Course description:**

From the following, we will read three each week:

- Young Goodman Brown, N. Hawthorne; The Necklace , de Maupassant; The Lady with the Pet Dog (aka the lap dog) , Chekov; Death in the Woods , Anderson
- The Rocking Horse Winner, Lawrence; Guests of the Nation, O'Connor; Hills Like White Elephants, Hemingway; A Worn Path, Welty; The Lottery, Jackson
- A&P , Updike; Sonny's Blues, Baldwin; The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas, Le Guin; Araby, Joyce

## SILIR Fall Session Classes

### September 12- October 13, (Session I)

#### " Politics and the Law"

Instructor: John Jackson

Registration Fee: \$15.00

Tuesday (s)

1:30-3:30 pm

Epiphany Lutheran Church

#### Course description:

We will examine the impact of the 2020 and 2022 elections on the run-up to the 2024 presidential and congressional elections."

TBA

#### Interested in Going Exploring?

SILIR plans to offer opportunities to explore our area and enjoy what exists in our own backyard by planning exploration visits to nearby towns and also offering group hiking opportunities. While dates are not yet set, the first two Explorations are planned for late September or early October, so watch for further information in the September newsletter.

- **Explore Treasures in Anna:** We'll carpool to enjoy treasures such as the Anna Arts Center, a library in the style of Frank Lloyd Wright, and an old German church. A local coffee shop serves great sandwiches, soups, salads, and desserts - a perfect end to our Exploration.
- **Exploring the Bottoms:** We'll learn about the six Green Earth Preserves via a brief presentation followed by a hike through the Chautauqua Bottoms Preserve. Even if you are already familiar with this local treasure, come explore it with SILIR friends and learn more about its history and development.

**Notice of Course Fee Increase:** The LIR Board of Directors has approved an increase in course fees effectively immediately. This is the first increase of any kind in 25 years.

A usual 5-week course will now cost \$15, a 2-session course will cost \$10, and a single session course will remain at \$5. While none of us enjoys seeing costs increased, we are rather proud of the fact that we have been able to maintain our fees for 25 years.

***If you haven't already renewed your membership in Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement (SILIR), do so now to be eligible for fall classes. The SILIR Curriculum Committee has slated a wide variety of classes on topics such as literature, law and politics.***

# REGISTRATION FORM

•Please fill out and send entire form with payment•

## SILIR REGISTRATION FORM (PLEASE FILL IN YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.)

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\*E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW MEMBERS:** How did you hear about us?  Friend  Newspaper  Social Media/Online  Radio/TV

*If you are registering more than yourself for a class/trip, please list the name(s) of the SILIR member you are registering.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (24M0901901) **FY24 Membership Dues** .....\$25 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
Addtl. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ **July 1, 2023—June 30, 2024**

**INTEREST GROUPS — July 1, 2023—June 30, 2024**  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (24M0901902) Monthly Musicals .....\$10 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (24M0901904) Book Study Group .....\$10 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (24M0901905) Lunch Discussion Group .....\$10 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

**FALL SESSIONS**  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (24M0901909) "Golden Age of Narrative American Network Radio, 1920-950"s"  
\$15 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (24M0901910) "Classic Short Stories" .....\$15 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (24M0901911) "Politics and the Law" .....\$15 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**LEARNING IN RETIREMENT PROGRAM WAIVER DISCLAIMER:** Most SILIR activities require very little mobility. When an activity requires traveling up to 1 mile or more or navigating 10 steps or more, or involves longer waiting or standing times, we will alert you so that you may choose wisely.  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
My signature confirms that I have read and understand the activity level of any trip sponsored by Learning in Retirement and accept the risks and conditions of the trip. I am aware that some trips may encounter rough terrain and closed-toe shoes will aid in maintaining my safety.

*Please submit a check payable to "SIU Carbondale" or credit card information below.*

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ CVC \_\_\_\_\_  
Email (for receipt): \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: Events & Outreach  
Anthony Hall - Mail Code 6705  
Carbondale, IL 62901**  
**or call Registration at 618-536-7751 to  
register with your credit card.**

**SIU**  
CARBONDALE

**EVENTS AND OUTREACH**  
ANTHONY HALL - MAIL CODE 6705  
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1265 LINCOLN DRIVE  
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**What will you learn today?**