

CLIR VOICE

www.clirsf.org



December, 2011

President's Message

What a wonderful opportunity we had at November's General Meeting to honor Martin Gumbel. CLIR chose to name a room in our suite in his honor. Nick Maffie, at right with Martin, presented him with the commemorative plaque that will be affixed to his room. At 94, he was praised as a vital part of the *Vicarious Traveler* program.

The feeling of joy continued with Richard Magary's presentation of the annual Finance Committee report. The great news? At our fiscal year's end the deficit was only 10% of the projected 2010-11 deficit. Richard outlined the committee's 2011-12 Budget and this year's experience-to-date which indicates that our current year should be at least as strong. Refer to page 6 for Richard's report.

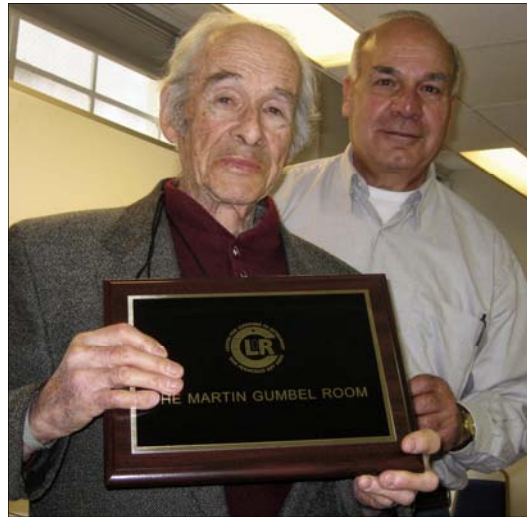
Our meeting continued along that vein when notice of a bequest of \$10,000 from the estate of Heidi Schimmel was announced. At one time Heidi was a very active member of CLIR. We appreciate her thoughtfulness in remembering our organization.

We had such a wonderful time at the 2010 Holiday Gala. This year it is December 2 at the same convenient, roomy and delightful location. It is bound to be another special experience. While looking forward to sampling the wide variety of delightful foods our members bring, I'm particularly anticipating our entertainment, San Francisco Sound Wave Chorus. One of the chorus members is our own Barbara Patinkin.

This year, we will feature and acknowledge the newer CLIR members—those that have joined in the last two years, of whom Barbara is one.

Come join us in the fun, celebration and party!

Robby Kiley



Alice Steele

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 2
Holiday Gala

December 15
Art on the GO
Holiday Tea

Happy
Holidays
Office closed
Dec 26-30
(Classes will be held)

January 1
Happy 2012

January 12
Drawing & Painting

January 18
Cal. History Lecture

January 25
Sonny Buxton Series

NAME BADGE

**PLEASE WEAR YOURS
AT OUR GENERAL
MEETINGS**

Class Updates

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP—January Selection

Evelyn Forsman

No Ordinary Time, by Doris Kearns Goodwin. This is the January Selection. There is no meeting in December.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

1st & 3rd Thursdays (Dec. 1 & Dec. 15), 10:00am

Linda Howe-Steiger,

December 1: Advice and tips on how to use detail for emotional impact in the stories you tell.

December 15: how to deal with stories that may be painful, embarrassing, or potentially hurtful to others.

We write and share stories about important relationships as well as some of the various houses/apartments/ places we've called "home". **Part II begins January 5.**

HISTORY OF ANCIENT EGYPT

First & Third Tuesdays, 1:00pm

Tania Yates,

December 6: *Dynasty XXVI (664-525 BC)* - The Saite Period. At the end of the last dynasty, we saw Egypt dominated by Assyrians. These kings lived in the past.

Dynasty XXVII (525 -359 BC) - The Persians. Dynasty XXVI at Sais had collapsed. With its last king, Psamtik III, captive in Persia, it was easy for the Persians to enter Egypt.

Note: if there is time we may see the "Sights & Sites" of Egypt from DonnaJean McCarthy.

Series resumes February 21, 2012.

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

First and Third Tuesdays, 10:30am

Tania Yates,

December 6—*Lecture 5* describes the settlements by the English, Dutch, and Swedes on the coast of North America, especially around the great ocean inlets .-

Lecture 6. Each region of English settlement underwent a transition from radically different models toward convergence on a generally English model.

Series resumes February 21, 2012.

OPTIMIZING BRAIN FITNESS

Wednesday, Dec. 7, Dec. 21

Robby Kiley

December 7: *Lecture 7.* Working memory is central to the most important mental operation carried out by the human brain. *Lecture 8.* Retrieval context should equal the encoding context.

December 21: *Lecture 9.* We look at an aspect of memory that we do not usually consider: emotional memory. *Lecture 10.* Deliberate practice is the key to improving brain performance and creativity .

Current Activities

Art on the GO — Holiday Tea

Bostonship Plaza, Townhouse #4

Thursday, December 15, 2:00pm

Fran Hasher,

Celebrate the holidays at our festive Holiday Tea at Bill Gregory's charming townhouse in a plaza behind One Embarcadero Center. Enjoy the gardens, meet Sophie the cat, and chat with friends while supporting CLIR at this fundraiser. Refreshments from Lovejoy's Tea Room will include a variety of tea sandwiches including smoked salmon and cream cheese, artichoke hummus, bay shrimp and mayo, scones with Devon cream and strawberry preserves. There will be special holiday teas such as China rose petal, gingerbread, chestnut and candy cane.

This event is limited to 20 people. Send your check for \$20 payable to Fran Hasher at 305 Elizabeth St., San Francisco 94114-3301. All proceeds after expenses will be donated to CLIR to support Art on the Go.

Directions to Bill Gregory's home are on Page 4.

MASTERS OF VENICE

Docent-led Lecture at CLIR

Wednesday, December 14, 10:30am

CLIR has engaged a skilled and entertaining docent from the museum to visit us and present a lecture to enhance your enjoyment of it. **Cost:** \$5.

VICARIOUS TRAVELER –

Roslyn Rhodes—Western National Parks

Friday, December 9, 11:30am

Special One & one-half Hour Presentation

Nick Maffei,

Forty-seven years ago, (then) New Yorker Roslyn went by airplane to San Francisco to join six other women on an American Youth Hostels sponsored, five week trip. It involved camping in eleven Western National Parks (Lassen Volcanic, Crater Lake, Mt. Rainier, Glacier, Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Bryce, Grand Canyon, Zion, Sequoia, Yosemite) and visiting other places along the way.

In addition to viewing her photographs and postcards, hear Roslyn relate stories of the 18-mile horseback ride in Glacier which turned scary, the truly stubborn mules ridden at Grand Canyon, the bears which got up close and personal, as well as the cowboys and other interesting people they met during their travels.

Be sure to note earlier starting time this month.

**For the latest information
visit CLIR's Website:
clirsf.org**

CLIR CALENDAR, DECEMBER 2011

CLIR PHONE: 415 543-3965

By: Gail Schlueck

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
28	29	30	1	2
			10 am - Memoir Class 1 pm - Bridge	1 pm - Holiday Gala
5	6	7	8	9
10 am - Spanish Class 11:30 am - Play Reading 1 pm - Current Events	10:30 am - History of USA 1 pm - Egypt History	10:30 am - Brain Course		11:30 am - Vicarious
12	13	14	15	16
1 pm - Current Events		10:30 am - Masters Venice 11 am - Finance Committee	10 am - Memoir Class 1 pm - Bridge 2 pm - Holiday Tea	1 pm - Council Meeting
19	20	21	22	23
10 am - Spanish Class 11:30 am - Play Reading 1 pm - Current Events		10:30 am - Brain Course		
26	27	28	29	30
	1 pm - Movie Club			

Coming Attractions

INTRODUCTION TO DRAWING & PAINTING"

Thursday, January 12 1:30pm
(Eight consecutive Thursdays)

Gene & Bonnie Martz,

If you'd like to try your hand at art and discover your own creativity, this class is for you! This class is made up of non-intimidating, fun experiences with other beginners. Class size is limited to twelve to ensure personal attention as you learn. Art materials needed will cost approximately \$25 and a detailed list will be sent to participants prior to the first meeting.

FOUR LECTURES ON PEOPLE WHO MADE CALIFORNIA HISTORY.

Presented by: Members of
The Institute for Historical Study (tihs.org)
Wednesdays, 10:30am

Jan. 18: : WOMEN OF THE GOLD RUSH, (Leslie Freidman)

Feb. 15: THE LIFE OF LEVI STRAUSS,

March 21: STARS WHO CAPTIVATED SAN FRANCISCO,

April 18: : A HOMESTEADER-POET IN BIG SUR, 1909-10
(Joanne Lafler)

The Great Jazz Singers

A course by Sonny Buxton

Wednesday Jan. 25, Feb.1 & Feb. 8—10:30am

Fee Class: Members \$20, Guests \$25

Annette Berger

During the era of the great Swing Bands, every band had a singer. That was the best way to sell a song - people remember lyrics and relate to the sound of the human voice. It worked, Many of the big band singers went on to achieve popularity and fame, lasting many years beyond the decade of Big Band Swing. Frank Sinatra, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, Peggy Lee, Billy Eckstine, Bing Crosby, Dinah Washington, Joe Williams - all jump-started their careers with big bands. The course will include recordings and commentary about those artists and others.

On Hiatus in December
Book Discussion Group
Dining and Discussion
Walk

Coming Attractions

FIVE STUDENT PRODUCTIONS AT A.C.T.

It happened quickly and those who heard the announcement at the November General Meeting and through e-mail were able to sign up for the five student productions at A.C.T., each preceded by a lecture/discussion of one hour led by Jack Sharrar. Many thanks to Jean Wilcox for arranging this CLIR treat. Here are your details:

Classes are at 30 Grant Ave. at 5:00pm. Four shows at 30 Grant at 7:30, one is at the Zeum theater at 8:00 pm. (Brown bag supper welcome or get a sandwich in the neighborhood)

Fri 11/18/11 *Antigone* by Sophocles, performed by Young Conservatory students.

Thur 2/9/12 *The Mandrake*, by Machiavelli, performed by second year MFA students,

Thur 3/1/12 *The Flu Season*, by Will Eno, performed by third year MFA students.

Thur 4/5/12 *Copies* by Brad Slight, performed by Young Conservatory students,

Thur 5/10/12 *An Evening of One-Act Tennessee Williams Plays* performed by second year MFA students at Zeum Theater.

ART ON THE GO—Directions to the Holiday Tea Party

The easiest way is to walk to the Embarcadero Center Cinema on the top level of Embarcadero One. Go in the front door and out the back door and you will be on the plaza level. Continue walking straight, pass the Punchline Comedy Club on the left. You will be walking across the Clay and Washington St. bridges. When you come to the Townhouse #1 sign on the right, turn right and go to #4.

Alternative: At Front and Clay Sts. go to the former Alcoa Building (brown building with crisscrosses on the façade.) Go up the escalator to the plaza level. Turn left and go to the other corner of the building, then turn left again. Go straight ahead and turn right, cross the Washington St. bridge, continue to the Townhouse #1 sign and turn right to #4.

Trans: Convenient to BART/Muni Metro Embarcadero station and to the Muni #1 California St. bus which runs east on Clay St. Exit at Front St.



ATTENTION CLIR ARTISTS!! Get your art work ready!
We'll be hanging the annual CLIR Art Show on March 5 & 6 at the
San Francisco Unitarian-Universalist Church
We have room for about three pieces per artist. Details soon.

Gene & Bonnie Martz

HOLIDAY GALA - DECEMBER 2 -- 1:00PM

—First Unitarian-Universalist Church — 1187 Franklin Street

between Geary and Starr King Way—

You're invited to help by bringing your favorite treat to share:

appetizers—side dishes—salads—desserts.

You will be reimbursed for your costs.

CLIR's Hospitality Committee will handle the entrees and beverages.

Sign up right away.

The deadline for response is November 30.

Make checks payable to CLIR with GALA in the memo section.

Yes, your guests are welcome.

\$25

SAN FRANCISCO SOUND WAVE CHORUS

SINGS A MIXTURE OF BARBERSHOP, SHOW TUNES, HOLIDAY SONGS AND FUNNY PARODIES



CLIR NEWS



CLIR & Sixty-Plus Members at the Ashland Oregon Shakespeare Festival

Fifteen members of CLIR joined thirteen Sixty-Plus members for the trip to the Festival in Ashland. There was a comfortable bus with an excellent driver, beautiful accommodations with a very large complimentary breakfast and marvelous theater with insightful pre-lectures. And, the last evening, a delicious dinner at Beasy's, a well-known Ashland eatery. The stage was set for Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* by banners outside the theater and inside the lobby, each with the picture of an assassinated political leader from over the centuries. With the title role played by a woman, it was a striking performance. *Measure for Measure* was the other Shakespeare play. Then there was *The African Company Plays Richard III*, based on the true story of a group of black actors in New York City in the 1820s, trying to put on *Richard III* in the face of a politically-connected white impresario trying to close them down. *Imaginary Invalid* and *August: Osage County* rounded out a diverse menu of great theater. A good time was had by all.

VOICE DELIVERY SYSTEM ELECTRONIC vs USPS

As we become more familiar with computers, e-mail and attachments, more CLIRites are electing to receive their monthly copy of the *Voice* by email.

Presently, new members are automatically placed on the e-mail mailing list. If you don't have the equipment or the know-how to receive the *Voice* this way, please notify the office, and your name will be put on the USPS list.

We appreciate the fact that you like the colorful editions and some do not have color printers to make copies. But you can still enjoy the color on your computer screens. Remember, It costs over \$1.50 each copy to print and mail the *Voice* via USPS. Electronic delivery is a significant savings.

Dear CLIR Members,

I am proud and happy the Council has chosen me to become an Honorary Member of CLIR.

I live in a beautiful part of Washington State and am active in my retirement community. I miss you all and really did leave part of my heart in San Francisco. Come and visit me!

Joan Paddington

TRANSITIONS

Steve Reiss, known as "Mr. CLIR" by many, died October 22 at the age of 89. Joining CLIR in 1989, Steve served as Secretary, Treasurer and as 2nd Vice President. He started the successful Investment Club and organized the Annual Picnic for many years. Steve was an active participant in many committees. Jovial and welcoming to everyone, he offered his help and encouragement wherever it could be useful. Steve loved music and the theater and tennis. Our condolences to his long-time companion, Iris Berman, and to Steve's family.

Heidi Schimmel joined CLIR in 1993. An active member before she moved away, she was Treasurer for our three year maximum term. She was the one who faced a CLIR computer for the first time and patiently drew forth lovely, balanced books and statements and set us on the right path in its use. We have just learned of Heidi's passing and that she made a generous bequest to CLIR. We extend our condolences to her family, and also our appreciation of Heidi's thoughtfulness to us.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

For CLIR's last Fiscal Year 7/1/2010-6/30/2011, there were Revenues of \$66,129, Expenses of \$70,107 and a resulting net loss of \$3,978. That loss contrasted very favorably with a projected net loss at the start of that year of \$34,102. The significant improvement in actual results was because CLIR office operations were changed from a paid Administrative Assistant to the all-volunteer Office Task Force. Thank you Task Force Members!

For CLIR's current Fiscal Year (7/1/2011-6/30/2012), we project Revenues of about \$63,000, Expenses of about \$66,200 and a resulting net loss of about \$3,200. CLIR currently has unrestricted Cash Reserves of about \$70,000.

Our thanks to outgoing Treasurer John Stark, current Treasurer Annette Berger and to all members of the Finance Committee for their hard work and fiscal stewardship on behalf of CLIR.

Richard Magary
Chair, CLIR Finance Committee

CENTER FOR LEARNING IN RETIREMENT

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Monday, Tuesday, Friday

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DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY ISSUE
December 9, 2011

December 2011 Issue