

CLIR VOICE

www.clirsf.org



February, 2012

President's Message

We completed the Brain Optimizing Course in January. To continue our efforts to keep and increase our brain fitness, we may start a CLIR discussion group. It is in the talking stages now.

CLIR's members regularly demonstrate that we meet 21st-century challenges. For example, since building security was removed last year, we've successfully remembered our secret code for building entry. We've demonstrated that we have the dexterity to execute the code and to grab the door in that short "window of opportunity". Please remember that if you cannot get the building's door open use the security box to "buzz the office" and not any of the other offices in the building. See page 7 for more on this.

The year started out with an extra challenge. When our members successfully entered the building on January 2 to attend Current Affairs, they discovered the elevators were also on holiday. Our resourceful group found the freight elevator in the back-bends of the building and used it to rise to the 3rd floor and proceed with their meeting. Congratulations - Brain fitness demonstrated!

Thinking of opportunity reminds me that we may now sign up to enjoy the annual CLIR Asilomar trip in May. The specifics are elsewhere in this issue. Asilomar is such a magical place, but much of the magic for me is that I've experienced it through our CLIR community. The physical beauty of Asilomar, the richness and charm of the historical buildings in which we shelter and eat and the easily walkable seaside, are delights. I hope they will be enjoyed not only by those of us who attended before, but also by those who haven't yet been so fortunate.

Our days at Asilomar are a fine demonstration of CLIR's activities. They keep both the body and brain sharp by getting us moving and providing a chance to gain and evaluate information and experience.

While my annual week of tax training prevented my joining those on January's Walk, I was told the activity, led by Jacquie Proctor, an outside resource recruited by Phyllis Abad, was a particular delight. Ah, unfortunately that's often the problem—our members lead lives so full that often we find we cannot participate in all the CLIR activities that interest us.

While frustrating, isn't that wonderful.

—Robby Kiley

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 3
General Meeting
And Social Hour

February 10
CLIRsights
Shakespeare On Tour

February 15
Part 2 of 4
Cal. History Lecture

February 1 & 8
2nd & 3rd Lectures
Sonny Buxton Series

February 29
TOUR:
Science & Art

March 5-April 26
Annual Art Show
Reception, March 11

May 20-22
Asilomar



*Happy
Valentine's Day*

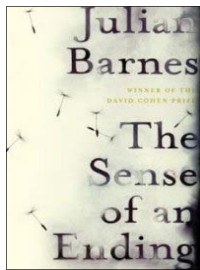
Class Updates

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Tuesday, February 28, 10:30am

Evelyn Forsman

The Sense of an Ending, by Julian Barnes.



DOWN MEMORY LANE

Thursday, Feb 2 & 23, 10:00am

Linda Howe-Steiger

February 2: Writing topic: *The Story Behind that Photo*. Please bring three or four old snapshots to our workshop, ones with you in them, ones that are not professional and that have objects or scenes in their background. We'll discuss various ways to preserve your memories for the future without writing stories.

February 23: Writing topic: *School Days*. Discussion topic: "voice" and points of view.

HISTORY OF ANCIENT EGYPT

Tuesday, February 21, 1:00pm

Tania Yates

Lecture 41 - Dynasties XXVIII-XXXI - The Beginning of the End. These four very brief dynasties are Egypt's last gasp at expelling foreigners ruling their country.



Lecture 42 - Alexander the Great (332-323BC) Alexander the Great began 300 years of Greek control of Egypt.

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

Tuesday, February 21, 10:30am

Tania Yates

Lecture 7 - Printers, Painters, and Preachers.

Lecture 8 - The Great Awakening. This was the beginning of the most dramatic cultural upheaval and the most ambitious attempt to relocate a source of certainty in American history.

The Great Jazz Singers

A course by Sonny Buxton

Wednesday Feb. 1 & Feb. 8—10:30am

There are two more dates this month to hear the lectures of the legendary Sonny Buxton. It's a fee class, but if you like jazz, \$20 is a small price to pay for this grand opportunity.

Current Activities

Art on the GO

Tour of Ed Hardy Studio

555 Francisco St. (between Mason and Taylor)

Thursday, February 16, 11:00 am

Fran Hasher

Ed Hardy, a graduate of the S.F. Art Institute with a BFA in printmaking, is recognized as one of the world's greatest tattoo artists. Tattooing was his primary focus for 40 years but in the late 1980s he resumed painting and printmaking. Recently he has been glazing porcelain pieces, both in Japan and in S.F. His paintings for the past few years are in acrylic, combining abstract and recognizable elements. His work has been influenced by Asian art and aesthetics, blended with late 20th century California ideas.

Join us to hear more about his unique career and to view his current work. We meet outside, near the sign reading: *A. Friscia Seafoods*. We can go in as a group. Otherwise, call 314-3858 to enter the building. **Trans:** The #30 Muni bus, the F train and the Mason Street Cable Car all stop nearby.

DINING & DISCUSSION

Yank Sing yanksing.com

Rincon Annex, 101 Spear St, San Francisco

Thursday, February 22, 11:30am

Karla Jones

Billed as the best dim sum restaurant in town, now when the tourists have departed, is the best time to experience this gem. It's a fine opportunity to sample the huge variety of dim sum available (more than 80 items) by going with a group like ours where all dishes can be shared. **Cost:** We will split the bill equally among us so bring cash. **Trans:** Near CLIR office & public transportation. Validated parking in the Center's garage. Call Karla to make a reservation.

PEOPLE WHO MADE CALIFORNIA HISTORY.

Women of the Gold Rush

Presented by: Leslie Friedman

Wednesday, February 15, 10:30am

Series continues: March 21; April 18

This is the second of four lectures, presented by members of The Institute for Historical Study.

There weren't very many! In an overwhelmingly male society, there were women in the mining fields and towns who distinguished themselves by writing the best descriptions we have of life in that time and place, championed the Native Americans, and took the lead in early preservation of forests and wildlife. There were others who suffered tragic injustices for being women and especially for being Mexican, African American or Chinese. This talk will tell some of their stories and also show the way their lives illuminate characteristics of the evolving California community.

CLIR CALENDAR, FEBRUARY, 2012

CLIR PHONE: 415 543-3965

BY: Gail Schlueck

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
30	31	1	2	3
		10:30am - Jazz Class	10am - Memoir Class 1pm - Bridge/Games 1:30pm - Drawing/Painting	10:30am - Curriculum 12pm - Tours/CLIRsights 1:15pm - General Meeting 2pm - Social Hour
6	7	8	9	10
10am - Spanish Class 11:30am - Play Reading 1pm - Current Events		10:30am - Jazz Class	1:30pm - Drawing/Painting 5pm - Act Class 7:30pm - ACT Play	12pm - Vicarious Traveler 1:30pm - CLIRsights
13	14	15	16	17
1pm - Current Events	10:30am - Walk	10:30am - Historical Talk 11am - Finance Committee	11am - Art on the Go 1pm - Bridge/Games 1:30pm - Drawing/Painting	1pm - Council Meeting
20	21	22	23	24
10am - Spanish Class 11:30am - Play Reading 1pm - Current Events	10:30am - History of USA 1pm - Ancient Egypt	11:30am - Dining/Discussio	10am - Memoir Class 1:30pm - Drawing/Painting	
27	28	29	1	2
1pm - Current Events	10:30am - Book Discussion 1pm - Movie Club	All Day Tour		

ASILOMAR 2012

**Sunday, May 20 (4pm check-in)
through Tuesday, May 22 (noon check-out)**

Asilomar, translated roughly from the Spanish:
“asilo” *asylum or refuge*; “mar” *sea*;
thus, *Asilomar, a refuge by the sea*.

Sign up NOW for CLIR’s very popular annual trip to *Asilomar* in Pacific Grove on the beautiful Monterey Peninsula (**VisitAsilomar.com**).

We enjoy delicious and nutritious meals together in the nearby Dining Hall, preceded each evening by CLIR’s exclusive Happy Hour in our historic Lodge designed by Julia Morgan.

All other time is *on your own* to relax, read, nap, explore *Asilomar’s* beautiful beach and 107 acre grounds, or to visit local sights: Monterey, Carmel, Big Sur. There always are optional games and puzzles and informal conversation in front of the warming fire in our Living Room.

Rates include two nights historic room with modern private bath, six Dining Hall meals (extra fee for box lunch); two CLIR wine & cheese Happy Hours, guided Ranger Tour.

Per Person

Single in room (single or double bed) - **\$394**

Two in room (singles or double bed) - **\$287**

Three in room (single beds) - **\$236**

View Room (only 3!!), add \$80; in-room Fireplace & Private Balcony (one only!!) add \$40.

Space is limited - \$100 deposit secures your reservation, balance due in April.
Non-CLIR friends welcome.

Please arrange your own roommate and car-sharing transportation.

Full details are on the signup sheet in CLIR’s Club Room. Contact Richard Magary

“*Asilomar* dunes arise with grace
O’ nature lover, it’s a wonderful place!”

Current Activities

**TOUR: From Science to Art with a
Chinese Lunch in-between
Wednesday, February 29 (really)
the bus will leave 50 First Street at 9:15am**

**Barbara Farrenkopf
Tom Rothgiesser**

Our first stop will be the NASA Exploration Center in Mountain View where a docent will show us an array of both Earth and Space Sciences, including a short movie on a huge screen. Lunch at P.F. Chang in Stanford and then on to another docent-led tour of the Cantor Arts Center. A great collection of artifacts from different continents and time periods.

Cost: \$50, sign-up and pay—to be part of only 32 tour participants.

**VICARIOUS TRAVELER – Nick Maffei
Germany, Austria, Belgium and Northern France
Friday, Feb. 10, Noon**

Nick Maffei

We will see photos from Nick’s September travels. Stopovers included some of the leading cities of the world: Munich, Salzburg, Linz, Nurnberg, Dresden, Berlin Koln, Liege, Brussels and Bruges. In Lille, Nick rented a car and drove through the Northern French countryside to the picturesque coastal towns of Honfluer and Deauville, and then on to the charming villages of Lisieux and Beuvron-en-Auge, Avranches, Mont Saint-Michel, the walled city of Saint Malo, and Rennes. Nick finished his trip wandering around some the elegant and tawdry neighborhoods of Paris, and with a side trip to Senlis, a medieval town renowned in French history.

**WALK—Tropics & Ocean Beach
Conservatory of Flowers—Golden Gate Park
February 14, 11:15am**

**Meet in front of the Conservatory
Phyllis Abad**

Get ready to endure warm temps and high humidity as we venture through the lowlands, highlands and aquatic zones of the Tropics. In addition, we will enjoy our share of laughs in the special exhibit remembering Playland at the Beach. It should be an invigorating morning.

SPECIAL AUDIENCE REMINDER

CLIR members who have taken advantage of Special Audiences had the potential to attend more than one hundred events. As Special Audiences members know, there are a few rules of engagement.

[1] Tickets are to be obtained from the CLIR member who is the designated ticket-dispenser at that particular event. No one else is to go to the box office and ask for tickets.

[2] Where seating is designated on the ticket distributed to the Special Audiences participants, we are to occupy only the seat that is so designated.

Starting in 2011, we began to offer the opportunity to CLIR members to "try out" the Special Audiences

program with a three-month trial for \$25. If the member then chooses to join Special Audiences for the rest of the year that can be done for an additional \$25. The regular annual fee for participation in Special Audiences is \$50.

Special Audiences is something that so many of our members enjoy. If you are not currently a Special Audiences member, please avail yourself of the 3-month trial opportunity to see if this would be a good fit for you and to join those of us who have found so much value in this unique program. And please remember the two simple but important "rules of engagement" articulated above.

Holiday Tea Revisited

Twenty CLIR members gathered at Bill Gregory's charming townhouse in mid-December for good eats, unusual teas, live music and lots of schmoozing. It was the very festive Holiday Tea with tea sandwiches and scones with cream and jam from Lovejoy's Tea Room in Noe Valley, a homemade cake by our host, and live holiday music by Nisha Anand (granddaughter of our own Estelle Weintraub) on the baby grand piano. Special thanks go to Pam Royse and Barbara Mow who handled the tea service and to Madeline Behrens-Brigham at Lovejoy's Attic who donated three varieties of tea. And best of all, this event raised a substantial amount for CLIR to support Art on the Go tours.



Sonnie Willis

GAME DAY FOR CLIR

1st & 3rd Thursdays, 1:00pm

Our Thursday afternoon Bridge Day is expanding to Game Day. We now have cards for Bridge, a Scrabble game and a San Francisco Monopoly game. That probably has more expensive real estate than the old game based on Atlantic City. If you enjoy playing games, come on the first and third Thursday of each month. If you have a favorite game, bring it with you. Who knows how this will develop, but we know that CLIR people always have fun.

MANY THANKS ARE DUE

The following members made special contributions to CLIR during the period July 1 - December 31, 2011. We owe them many thanks.

Ruth Basin	Barbara Harvie	Patricia O'Connor
Birgit Chase	Jean Hayward	Irene Owen
Marie Clyde	Dick Hewetson	Gail Schlueck
Betty Dowell	Enid Leff	Susan Schneider
Donna Ellis	Richard Magary	Stefanie Steinberg
Evelyn Forsman	Donnajean	Elaine and Stan
Jane Galvan	McCarthy	Weiss
Roslyn Goldstein	Barbara Mow	Margaret Zegart
Bill Gregory	Marjorie Mull	

PLUS ALL THOSE WHO PUT MONEY IN THE KITTY. OR CONTRIBUTED FOOD AT THE SOCIAL HOUR.

CLIR ANNUAL ART SHOW

MARTIN LUTHER KING ROOM -
FIRST
UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

1187 Franklin Street
Between
Starr King Way & Geary Street

March 5–April 26
Artists' Reception
Is
Sunday,
March 11, NOON-3:00pm

ATTENTION CLIR ARTISTS

Artists may show a maximum of four works, which **must be framed, wired and ready to hang**. We will hang the show on Monday, March 5th. Please bring your works to the church from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on that day. Use the Franklin Street entrance and walk down the hall on the left to the Martin Luther King room gallery where the show will hang. Short-term parking is available in the church garage for dropping off art only. Entrance to the garage is off the left lane of Starr King Way, just before Franklin street. (Garage door will open automatically.)

It will come down on Thursday, April 26. Artists must pick up their work by 1:00 p.m. on that day. **Please DO NOT take art work for the show to the CLIR office; we have no way of getting works from there to the church. NOTE:** Neither CLIR nor the church carries any insurance for works of art in the show.

Contact Chairs: Bonnie & Gene Martz with any questions.

Art Entry Form

Please return a copy of this form to the CLIR office by Monday, February 27, with your check for the entry fee of \$5.00 made out to CLIR. Artists may enter no more than 4 works, maximum size 36". Works **must be framed, wired and ready to hang**. Deliver to the First Unitarian Universalist Church at 1187 Franklin Street on Monday, March 5th, between 10:00 a.m. and no later than 1:00 p.m.

Artist's Name _____
Phone _____
Address _____
Title of Work _____
Medium _____
Value _____

(This information is needed for each work to be shown, but only one entry fee per artist is required.)

Artists - Please place this information on each of your entries:

Artist's
Name _____
Title of
Work _____
Medium _____
Price
(If for Sale) _____

WE ASK YOUR ASSISTANCE

Recently we received a phone call from a doctor's office at 50 First Street advising that some of our members have been ringing their intercom to gain entry to the building. We ask that you refrain from doing that.

Please use the instructions and code number provided, or follow the instructions posted on the lobby window: press the 3 key on the keypad and press it again and again until you see CLIR on the readout. Then press the # key. When the office answers identify yourself and you will be admitted.

Please keep in mind that CLIR's office is only open from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays except on legal holidays. On all other days you will need to use the code number to enter the building. If you don't have that code please contact the CLIR office and it will be provided.

We thank you for your cooperation.

The Office Task Force

CLIRsights SF SHAKESPEARE ON TOUR February 10, 2:00PM

They are coming again. that wonderful San Francisco Shakespeare acting company, this time to show us the story of that nasty king-killer, Macbeth. Well, actually it was his wife who was nastier; she egged him on, "will these hands ne'er be clean." *Macbeth* is Shakespeare's shortest play, made even shorter by SF Shakespeare's clever one-hour performance. They somehow manage to fit in the whole story, costumed witches, murders, and all. So come and be entertained.

CLIRsights is always open to your guests.



Maryssa Wanlass as Lady Macbeth & Phil Lowery in the title role of Shakespeare On Tour's production. Photo: John Western

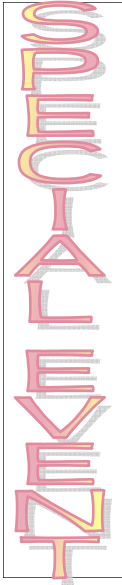
Roster changes and a welcome to our Newest members.

BERESFORD AMOROSO is looking forward to meeting other CLIR members and getting to know them. Her interests include Spanish or French conversation classes and art appreciation. She may help on a committee once she has had a little more experience with CLIR. She is currently a member of 60plus and learned about CLIR when our two groups were together at Ashland in October.

DEBORAH BINDER returns to CLIR. She is retired from ownership of a vocational rehabilitation business and is currently Study Coordinator for the Neuroscience Research Program at UC Berkeley, working four days a week. She would be interested in joining the debates in Current Affairs, in book discussion and is interested in philosophy, politics and cognitive science. She would like to join a bridge group again and if time permits would help with the annual luncheon or picnic.

CONNIE CHANDLER has lived in the Bay Area for ten years, relocating from Connecticut where she dealt in real estate. Now settled in San Francisco she looks forward to exploring the City and hopes to become a school volunteer. At CLIR she will choose from many classes that interest her, including art, movie club, play reading, current affairs, and possibly French. She hopes she will find a program about genealogy, education or meditation. She may join one of our committees when she becomes more familiar with CLIR. Connie learned about CLIR from the Internet.





Oh, Pshaw! Bernard's Women
Speech Arts Association
Saturday, March 10, 2:00 pm
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
1755 Clay Street between Van Ness and Polk
(Door marked Church Office and Dade Hall)
Patricia O'Connor

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day early with Patricia O'Connor, long time CLIR member and M.A. in Theatre, who will present a one-woman program devoted to the great Irish playwright, George Bernard Shaw. It will include Shaw's real life friend and correspondent Mrs. Patrick Campbell as well as marvelous fictional characters from his plays. **Cost:** Free admission and refreshments. Please contact Patricia if you plan

to attend so arrangements can be made for sufficient and delicious goodies. **Trans:** Muni lines 1, 19, 47, 49. Metered parking lot nearby or street parking.

TRANSITION

Lillian Clarke, who joined CLIR in 1997, died on December 27th. She participated in many CLIR activities over the years, always with enthusiasm. In addition to her time here, Lillian volunteered at UNICEF and Mended Hearts. She held many positions over her life. One job she found especially gratifying was as a driver for the delegates from the over fifty governments who gathered in San Francisco in 1945 for the first United Nations Conference. Lillian loved cooking, music, art and also traveled extensively. She lived near your editor for many years, but such is the nature of city life that we met most frequently at CLIR. She invariably, with a twinkle in her eye, greeted me with "Hi neighbor!"

For CLIR information
 visit our Website:
clirsf.org

CENTER FOR LEARNING IN RETIREMENT
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10:00am to 2:30pm
Monday, Tuesday, Friday

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First Vice President: Gail Schlueck
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DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH ISSUE
February 10, 2012

February 2012 Issue