

# CLIR VOICE

[www.clirsf.org](http://www.clirsf.org)



May 2011

## President's Message

As you all know Joan Paddington has moved to Washington State. Her absence at CLIR events will be felt by all. Serving as our Secretary for three years was foremost among the many responsibilities Joan undertook. Many members fondly recall her terrific sense of humor and everyone looked forward to hearing her read the Minutes of the previous General Meeting. As Secretary, Joan also maintained the official record of Council deliberations.

Joan's participation in a wide variety of CLIR's activities often provided insight: hers was not the stereotypical response to events and ideas. Her contributions will be missed, as shown by the many comments from regulars at Current Events and the Movie Club. An artist, Joan was in the Art Workshop for many years.

Personally, I'll greatly miss her, for she was a wonderful guide to me. As a CLIR member for only three years, I lacked the cornucopia of CLIR knowledge that Joan had. She either knew the answers to my questions or had specific tips on where I could find them. Particularly I will miss Joan's keen eye on minutes and minutia, as she kept CLIR's journey on-track.

We were all delighted to welcome once again Iris Berman, Gene Martz and Carlyn Halde whose renewed health meant they could join us at the April General Meeting. Also there that day, and joining CLIR as a member, was Marina Schoupe. We welcome you, Marina. She joins us in our quest to understand that learning is vital to the enjoyment of life.

Charlie Munger (who calls himself Warren Buffett/Berkshire's assistant cult leader) has articulated what we know to be a CLIR foundation:

*"I constantly see people rise in life who are not the smartest, sometimes not even the most diligent, but they are learning machines. They go to bed every night a little wiser than when they got up and boy does that help, particularly when you have a long run ahead of you... Nothing has served me better in my long life than continuous learning."*

**Robby Kiley**

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**May 6**  
General Meeting  
Social Hour Follows

**May 30**  
Memorial Day

**June 24**  
CLIR  
Annual Luncheon

**August 12—15**  
Shakespeare—Santa Cruz

**October 25-28**  
Annual Ashland  
Shakespeare Trip

*Tell your friends  
and associates about  
CLIR.*

*There is lots of  
information about  
us on our  
website:*

*[CLIRsf.org](http://CLIRsf.org)*

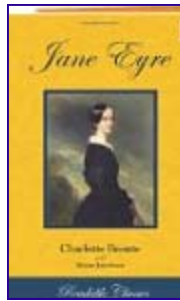
## Class Updates

### BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Tuesday, May 24, 11:00am

Bill Gregory,  
Evelyn Forsman,

**May 24:** *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte.



©Amazon

### History of Ancient Egypt

First & Third Tuesdays, 1:00pm

Tania Yates, 510 527-7712

Professor Bob Brier, Egyptologist, delivers these lectures through the auspices of The Teaching Company. We view and discuss two lectures each session.

**May 3:** *The First Intermediate Period (2181 - 2040 BC)*. After centuries of powerful growth, the rise of nationhood, pyramids and prosperity, Egypt totally collapses. We examine the consequences.

*The Middle Kingdom - Dynasty XI (2134-1991 BC)*. The Middle Kingdom is the story of the resurrection of Egypt.

**May 11:** *The Middle Kingdom - Dynasty XII (1991-1782 BC)*. We saw Dynasty XI as one of unification, slowly bringing together Egypt's fragmented areas. Now we see an establishment mentality takeover.

*The Second Intermediate Period*. We see three distinct phases of government: 1. The decline of the Middle Kingdom, 2. Egypt controlled by foreigners, 3. The expulsion of the Hyksos by a heroic prince and his sons.

### ISSUES ON AGING

Wednesdays: May 4, 11, 18 10:00am

Jean Wilcox,

**May 4:** Janet Oh, Co-Director of Coming of Age will speak on *Transitions/Coping with Change*.

**May 11:** to be announced.

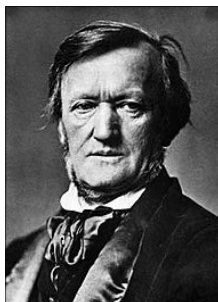
**May 18:** Dr. Charles Vella, Neurophysiologist, will discuss *Brain Fitness*.

### OPERA IN AN HOUR (or two, this time)

Wednesday, May 11, Noon

George Lucas,

Our moderator, George Lucas, condenses Wagner's *Götterdämmerung* Prologue and Act 1 in one hour and Acts 2 and 3 in the second hour.



Richard Wagner (Wikipedia)

## Current Activities

### ART-ON-THE-GO

White Walls Gallery and more

835 Larkin St. (near Geary)

Thursday, May 19, 1:30pm

Fran Hasher,

Ready for a walk on the wild side? Want to learn about Pop Surrealism, lowbrow and urban contemporary art? Then join us at three Tenderloin-area galleries opened by entrepreneur Justin Giarla. And afterward take a stroll down the street to the nearby Phoenix Hotel for the opening day of ArtPadSF where our host has an exhibit.



We will begin our tour at White Walls Gallery and then go next door to view the show at the Shooting Gallery at 839 Larkin, following that with a trip around the corner to 941 Geary, a large art space with a 16-foot ceiling. Then on to ArtPadSF, a provocative 21st century hotel-based art fair, focusing on emerging contemporary galleries and artists from the Bay Area and beyond at San Francisco's legendary Phoenix Hotel. Justin Giarla will be our guide.

**Transportation:** Convenient to Muni buses #38 Geary, #19 Polk, and to buses on Van Ness.

### DINING AND DISCUSSION

Colombini ([nobhillhotel.com](http://nobhillhotel.com))

835 Hyde Street (between Bush & Sutter)

Wednesday, May 18, 6:00pm

Karla Jones,

Our dining destination this month is a small restaurant with a warm décor and cozy ambiance in a Tuscan setting with moderate prices. **Cost:** Remember we each pay our bill separately depending on what we order, so it is best to



bring cash. Public parking lot is nearby on Sutter.

**Deadline:** May 16 by telephone only, to Karla. Unfortunately, the sign-up sheet for this activity does not work well for the required firm reservations, so its use is presently discontinued.

**Current Activities continued on page 4**

# CLIR Calendar: MAY 2011

Phone: 415 543-3965

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
2	11:30 AM Play Reading Class 1:00 PM Current Affairs Forum	3	10:00 AM Kata Gentle Exercise 1:00 PM History of Ancient Egypt	4	10:00 AM Issues of Aging	5		6	10:30 AM Curriculum Com.Mtg. 12:00 PM CLIRsights, Walks, Tours Com. Mtgs. 1:15 PM GENERAL MEETING and SOCIAL HOUR
9	10:30 AM Spanish Conversation 1:00 PM Current Affairs Forum	10	9:00 AM Kata Gentle Exercise 10:30 AM Walk	11	10:00 AM Issues of Aging 12:00 PM Opera in an Hour	12		13	12:00 PM Vicarious Traveler 1:30 PM CLIRsights <b>VOICE DEADLINE</b>
16	11:30 AM Play Reading Class 1:00 PM Current Affairs Forum	17	10:00 AM Kata Gentle Exercise 1:00 PM History of Ancient Egypt	18	10:00 AM Issues of Aging Meeting 11:00 AM Finance Com. 6:00 PM Dining and Discussion	19	1:30 PM Art-on-the-Go 5:00 PM ACT class 8:00 PM ACT play	20	1:00 PM Council Meeting
23	10:30 AM Spanish Conversation 1:00 PM Current Affairs Forum	24	10:00 AM Kata Gentle Exercise 11:00 AM Book Discussion Group 1:00 PM Movie Club	25		26		27	
30	1:00 PM Current Affairs Forum <b>MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED</b>	31	10:00 AM Kata Gentle Exercise						

## Current Activities (continued)

### VICARIOUS TRAVELER—Martin Gumbel Japan

Friday, May 13, Noon

Nick Maffei,

Martin will present slides of his visit to Japan and its exquisite religious shrines. His trip begins in Tokyo and Kyoto. Then moves on to the countryside and old Japan with its small towns and villages with thatched roofs and wonderful ambience. Martin will also share slides of coastal scenes complete with trees reminiscent of Japanese wood prints. We will also see slides of artistic textiles and pottery and gardens of great delicacy.

### WALK: San Francisco Mission District Murals Tuesday, May 10, 10:30am

Birgit Chase

Explore San Francisco Mission District Murals by taking a walk around the mostly Latino neighborhood. The walk is on paved sidewalks and almost flat with very small grade differences.

The Mural movement started in the Mission District in the 1970's and new murals are still added today.



"Indigenous Eyes: War or Peace" ©1991  
Susan Kelk Cervantes, Precita Eyes Muralists

**Meet outside** Pre-  
cita Eyes Mural Arts  
and Visitors Center, 2981 24th Street, at Harrison Street,  
San Francisco.

### ACT Classes

Jean Wilcox,

If you signed up for the ACT performances back in February, here is your schedule for May.

May 19: *As You Like It* (Shakespeare)

5:00pm Class, 30 Grant.

8:00pm Performance, Zeum Theatre

## CLIR News

Member  
OUR MYSTERY  
CLIR MEMBER  
mystery  
member  
Mystery

**Our April Mystery Member** who met the sports car driven by Maria Callas that passed with such speed and created such a wind that he was knocked off the road lived to tell us his identity: Sid Rosenberg.

**Our May Mystery Member?** After a delicious dinner, she liked to share her husband's very good cigar. Years ago, a friend caught her smoking the cigar in a nightclub in Atlantic City, and har-rumphed that (the friend) could not believe what she saw. However, our mystery member did not stop smoking

them until her father told her that her breath smelled. That did it. Who is this CLIR member?

If you would like to be a Mystery Member, send a paragraph describing something about you that the rest of us probably don't know to [dhewetson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dhewetson@sbcglobal.net). Include a picture if you wish.

## SHAKESPEARE—SANTA CRUZ AUGUST 12—15



Photos: Stefanie Steinberg

### SHAKESPEARE—SANTA CRUZ AUGUST 12—15

Enid Leff,

The sign-up sheet for this enjoyable weekend is out. We will be staying in the comfortable apartments in College 8 on the UCSC campus, with all meals provided. We get there by carpool. We see three plays:

***The Comedy of Errors***

***Henry IV, Part 1***, by Shakespeare

***The Three Musketeers***, an adaptation of Alexandre Dumas' story.

We have seminars in the morning following each play and there will be a party to which the Artistic Director, Marco Baricelli, is invited.

Family and friends are invited too.

Shared double room	\$432
Single room	\$471
CLIR non-member	\$ 40 extra

Deposit: \$85 due by June 1

Full payment by July 24. Checks payable to CLIR with Santa Cruz in the memo section.

# Candidates for CLIR Council, July 2011-June 2012

**The Nominating Committee unanimously recommends the following slate of candidates for the 2011-2012 Council. The candidates will be introduced at the May 6 General Meeting. The election will be held at the June 3 General Meeting.**

<b>President</b>	<i>Robby (Robertamarie) Kiley</i>
<b>First Vice President</b>	<i>Gail Schlueck</i>
<b>Second Vice President</b>	<i>Pat Tibbs</i>
<b>Secretary</b>	<i>Alice Steele</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<i>Annette Berger</i>

**Members at Large:**

*Barbara Farrenkopf, Evelyn Forsman,  
Joan Gorrell, Kathryn Ringgold, Sol Silver,  
Jean Wilcox*

**Robby (Robertamarie) Kiley (2007).** As CLIR's president during the past year, Robby was presented with a wonderful slew of learning opportunities, just the reason she joined CLIR when she settled in California in 2007. Among these, came the awareness of how fortunate CLIR is to have a membership with a wide swath of knowledge and the willingness to give of their expertise and energy. Robby, who lives in Alameda, has trained to become a certified AARP Tax Counselor and a volunteer with the Medicare Insurance counseling program, HICAP. She's active with Alameda's senior center, including serving on the Mastick Senior Center Advisory Board, and is currently Treasurer for the League of Women Voters, Alameda.

**Gail Schlueck (2005).** Gail has served on the CLIR Council for the past two years as the liaison person between CLIR and UCBX. She is co-chair of the Curriculum Committee, assists as Theatre Coordinator for Special Audiences, and works with Enid Leff to arrange speakers for our exciting CLIRsights programs. As our Master Calendar person, she has a front row seat to all of the wonderful activities available to every member and has enjoyed computer, art, health and history peer classes, as well as field trips to Asilomar and Santa Cruz. She feels having fun while volunteering is the key to a happy retirement, and that "CLIR membership has certainly filled this bill for me."

**Pat Tibbs (2003).** One of the leaders of CLIR's Current Affairs Forum, Pat served on the Walks Committee & Tours Committee, and is currently a member of the Office Task Force where she volunteers to staff our office one day a week. Pat has served as a Member at Large on the Council, has presented her photos of Sweden via Vicarious Traveler, was part of Art Workshop for seven years and contributed her original artwork to the annual art show several of those years. She has managed CLIR's website for five years and CLIR's marketing for two years. Pat joined CLIR after 25 years in the private sector and more than 15 years managing nonprofits.

**Alice Steele (1996).** Served on CLIR's Council (1996-2003) as Secretary, First Vice President and President and eventually served on nearly all CLIR committees (always excepting Finance). She has been on the staff of CLIR's newsletter, *The Voice*, since 1996. She has enjoyed every aspect of CLIR, from Asilomar and area tours, to peer classes and gourmet luncheons. Before retiring, she was an executive secretary in the business world and volunteered in various civic activities. While Alice still enjoys exploring the nooks and crannies of California, now she mostly concentrates on her art and photography, and exhibits at a local gallery.

**Annette Berger (1991).** A Member at Large on the Council, Annette serves on the Finance, Nominating, Annual Luncheon and Office Task Force Committees. Over the years, she has served on the Membership, Tours, Walks, Picnic, and Holiday Gala Committees. Each fall, she negotiates seats for a large number of members for the All San Francisco Concert. Of the many trips we've all enjoyed thanks to Annette, perhaps the most popular is the Reno Snow Train. CLIR activities she especially enjoys are CLIRsights, Vicarious Traveler, Zany San Francisco, Walks, Tours, Art on the Go and Special Audiences. Her professional career was in education, bookkeeping, social work, real estate and travel. Other volunteer duties she participates in include ushering with the Ballet, Opera, Symphony and SFJAZZ. "I love music and dancing," Annette says, "and the wonderful activities and friends I've made at CLIR."

**Continued on Page 6**

## Candidates for CLIR Council, *Continued*

**Barbara Farrenkopf (2008).** Barbara's love of learning is a natural complement to CLIR's mission of providing a place for continued learning. Barbara enjoys planning tours that expose people to new learning experiences. As a member of the Council, Barbara is focusing on developing new ideas that will help expand our membership, while continuing to create unique experiences for all members. A California native, Barbara Farrenkopf was born in San Francisco and raised in Larkspur. She and her husband Bill moved to Walnut Creek to raise their three children.

**Evelyn Forsman (2002).** Evelyn is active in Current Events, the Book Club, the Film Club and Special Audiences. She travels each year to Santa Cruz and Asilomar, and has been on the distribution team for the *Voice* since she joined. She sees CLIR as a multifaceted community of friends which succeeds very well with its varied peer classes and CLIRsights lectures. She feels the Curriculum Committee deserves our gratitude. Evelyn appreciates that CLIR takes advantage of the area's rich culture with such programs as Art on the Go, Special Audiences, City Walks and Dining and Discussion. She has lived in San Francisco for over 65 years.

**Joan Gorrell (2006).** Retired for thirteen years, Joan's major outside activity is classes/lectures in history, art, and literature. She has particularly appreciated the Special Audiences program. The last twenty years of her varied career were spent as a Nurse Consultant for the California Department of Health Services. Joan was raised on the East Coast; graduated as history major, Barnard College; then nursing school in NYC; came to San Francisco "for a year"; and, like many in the 1960s, never went back. She has lived in Berkeley for thirty-three years "and love it!"

**Kathryn Ringgold (2010).** Kathryn is a relatively new member and has enjoyed attending Current Affairs sessions, Zany San Francisco, an evening at ACT with CLIR and especially Shakespeare, Santa Cruz. After receiving a B.S. in Public Health from UC Berkeley and working at UCSF as a Medical Technologist, she enrolled in night classes at Golden Gate Law School. Having graduated from law school and passing the Bar in 1970, for 26 years she specialized in Workers' Compensation representing injured workers. She sold her practice in 1996 and until recently did pro bono work, representing children in Adoption and Guardianship cases. Kathryn was born and raised in the Bay Area.

**Sol Silver (2005).** A Council member for a number of years, as both an officer and Member at Large, Sol chaired several committees and currently serves on the Membership Committee. He's also active in the Play Reading group. He has displayed figurative sculptures in CLIR's Art Shows, presented programs for Vicarious Traveler and, for fun, portrayed Adolph Sutro for Zany San Francisco History. Sol is a retired Architect and City Planner who taught at UC Berkeley and was formerly Chief of Advance Planning for Marin County. Growing up in Detroit, he attended the University of Michigan. Drafted in 1954, he was sent to the Presidio for two years and never returned to Detroit. For nearly forty years he lived in Sausalito in a house he designed. He now lives in San Francisco.

**Jean Wilcox (1994).** Jean has been on the Council as a Member at Large and served as President twice - each time for two years. She has taught Acting and, twice, a popular course on Issues of Aging, and has served on the Task Force to recommend CLIR's future home. For twenty years, Jean worked in Personnel Administration; then, having completed a law degree at night school, spent twenty years as a lawyer. She represented employers and later became a labor arbitrator. Jean was also a judge pro tem in the San Francisco Small Claims Court, and served as Assistant Dean at Golden Gate Law School.

### A SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY

A song that always brings tears to my eyes is *The White Cliffs of Dover*. It promised us peace at the end of World War II. Teenagers who presented a delightful performance by the Young Conservatory program of ACT had many CLIR members reminiscing and "singing along" with the wonderful songs from WWII. This was one of the plays included in the program that Jean Wilcox set up for us at ACT.

—Dick Hewetson

*There'll be blue birds over  
The white cliffs of Dover,  
Tomorrow, just you wait and see.*

*There'll be love and laughter  
And peace ever after  
Tomorrow, when the world is free.*

*The shepherd will tend his sheep,  
The valley will bloom again  
And Jimmy will go to sleep,  
In his own little room again.*

*There'll be blue birds over  
The white cliffs of Dover,  
Tomorrow, just you wait and see.*

**Words - Nat Burton  
Melody - Walter Kent  
Published - 1941**

## CLIR NEWS

### VENERABLE VICARIOUS TRAVELER

Nick Maffei, who organizes this program that's been around since the beginning of CLIR, tells us it is in trouble. At one time, we had a long waiting list of people who wanted to share their travel experiences with other CLIRites and the program was a much anticipated, major CLIR experience.

Now? While it is very likely we still have many photographers among us, they are keeping those precious photos a secret.

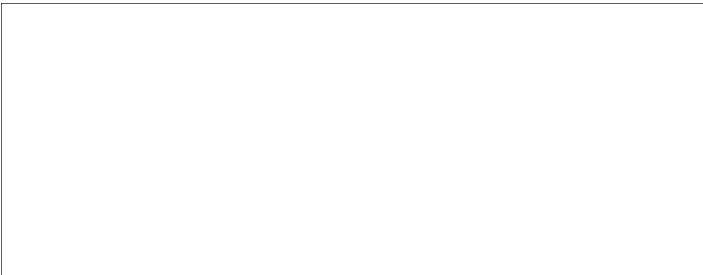
Your photographs do not need to be of far away places. Views of San Francisco's Rose Garden would, no doubt, be welcome, or how about our own Fisherman's Wharf? In other words, make up a theme and present it. You get to show your work and others will enjoy it.

If we want to keep this program in our repertory, we members must act now.

Nick says he will have to suspend the program as of June if volunteers do not come forward.

Let's keep this venerable program going. Send an email to Nick to share your photo experiences with CLIR.

Email him



### MISSING LINKS

Last year Linda Howe-Steiger taught a series of classes on how to write a memoir and we learned the importance of writing down everything we remember about family - plus how to add photos, in our trip *Down Memory Lane*. The April 8 CLIRsights presentation, *Missing Links*, reinforced this teaching.

Vivian Kahn & Michael Nolan showed us how to fill in the Missing Links in our family memoirs. We learned about the many websites where information about our ancestors can be accessed and that marriage, birth, and death records often yield the names of relatives that we might not otherwise have known.

I left with renewed interest in discovering which ships carried my father's parents to this country from Europe.

## CLIRsights The Art of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Portrait Painting

Jeremy Sutton,  
Corel Painter  
Master

Friday, May 13, 1:30pm



Fasten your seatbelts and be prepared for a dazzling demonstration of live digital art in action! See how Jeremy Sutton, Corel Painter Master, uses the latest in digital paint technology to create an expressive, colorful portrait of a subject he will pick from the audience. Mr. Sutton is an internationally recognized authority and artistic pioneer in the field of digital painting. In 2010, Jeremy was hired by the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco to perform a tableau portrayal of impressionist painter Edgar Degas, creating drawings and paintings of ballet dancers at the de Young and Legion of Honor Museums, in front of an audience. Come and join us; see the actual moment of artistic inspiration come to life.



An easily available reference is **[ellisland.org](http://ellisland.org)** where there are many documents from the period between 1892 and 1924. That's when many of our ancestors entered the United States. But we also learned about sources such as **[ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com)** and **[jewishgen.org](http://jewishgen.org)**. Some information, but not all, is free at these sites. I plan to consult them, but before that I will apply for my maternal grandfather's death certificate, where I may be able to learn his parents' names. He died here in San Francisco and, while I was born & raised in Ohio, I figure it makes sense to start as close to my current home as possible.

Thanks to the CLIRsights Committee for booking this very interesting event. CLIRsights is one of my very favorite activities.

—Pat Tibbs

## KEEP CLIR HEALTHY, WEALTHY & WISE

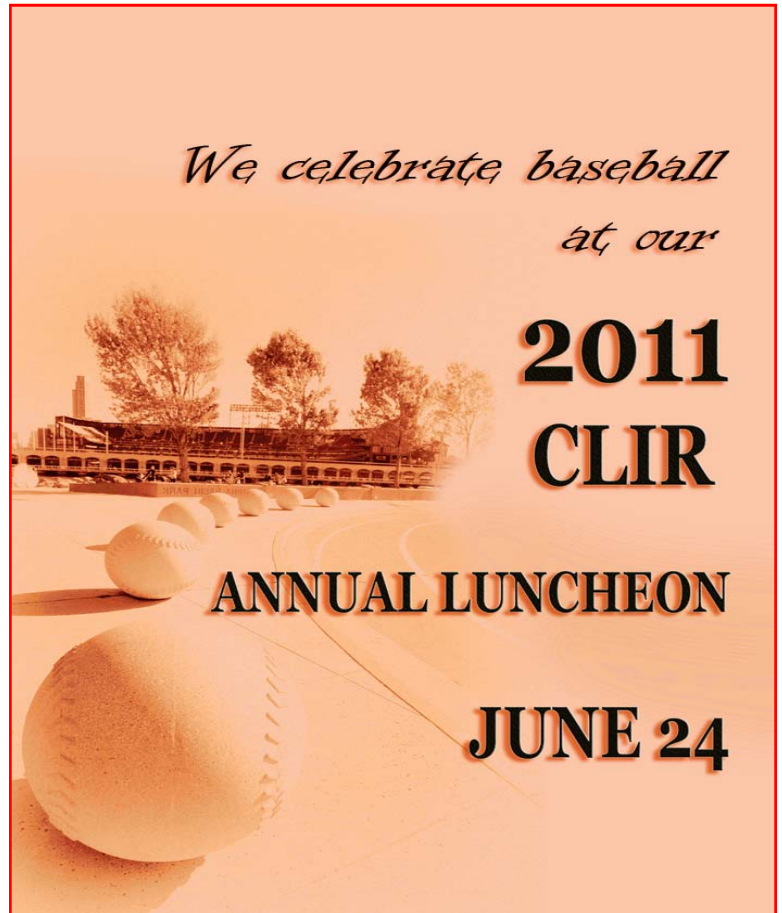
Yes, you, dear member, can do this.

Are you looking for an opportunity to get more involved in CLIR? Here's your chance. Take a turn at staffing the office. The duties are not complicated, except maybe for understanding how to send and receive email. We'll train you and won't turn you loose until you feel comfortable answering the phone, handling email and answering questions.

Presently, seven members staff the CLIR office. Some work one day a week, some one day a month. You could become a much-needed part of this valued group.

Think of it as a chance to learn more about CLIR while helping hold down costs and membership fees.

To volunteer, or to get answers to any questions about the Office Task Force, email [office@clirsf.org](mailto:office@clirsf.org) or call the office on Mondays, Tuesdays or Fridays at 543-3965.



**CENTER FOR LEARNING IN RETIREMENT  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA  
50 FIRST STREET, SUITE 300  
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94105**

**Telephone: (415) 543-3965  
E-mail: [office@clirsf.org](mailto:office@clirsf.org)  
Website: [www.clirsf.org](http://www.clirsf.org)**

**Office Hours  
10:00am to 2:30pm  
Monday, Tuesday, Friday**

**Council:**  
**President: Robby (Robertamarie) Kiley**  
**First Vice President: Joan Paddington**  
**Second Vice President: Pam Royse**  
**Secretary: Tatiana Yates**  
**Treasurer: John Stark**

**Members at Large:**  
**Joy Bryant**  
**Barbara Farrenkopf**  
**Gail Schlueck**  
**Annette Berger**  
**Sol Silver**  
**Jean Wilcox**

**Voice: Editorial Staff:**  
**Ena Macrae and Alice Steele: [SFALice@aol.com](mailto:SFALice@aol.com)**  
**Distribution Staff:**  
**Enne Braun, Evelyn Forsman, Ros Goldstein, Ruth Basin,  
Phyllis Spandorf**

**DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE  
May 13, 2011**

**May 2011 Issue**