



FALL 2026

CLASS & TRIP CATALOG

2001 – 2026

25 Years Anniversary

INSTITUTE FOR LEARNING IN RETIREMENT

165 ELM ST. SLIPPERY ROCK, PA 16057 | WWW.ILRETIREMENT.ORG | INFO@ILRETIREMENT.ORG | (724) 636-1145

ILR 25 Anniversary Fundraiser Bash

Andy & Peggy Johnson

Attention ILR Members, Friends, and Families - Special Event. Mark your calendars for

ILR 25 Anniversary Fundraiser Bash

Saturday, October 17, from 5-8PM

at the SRU Alumni House

This celebration will feature beautiful vocal music, delicious food, and special guests.

Information on ticket sales will come at a later date.

The Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR) provides an informal environment for educational, cultural, and recreational experiences for adults. ILR members experience the love and joy of learning by sharing interests in an active welcoming community.

Classes, trips, and social events are offered in Spring (March to June) and Fall (September to November) to members and guests every year. **JOIN US!**

BECOME A MEMBER

Fill out an ILR **Membership Registration**:

- Section I. Personal/Contact Information

NEW APPLICANT: fill out personal/contact information section

Returning member: write your name, date, select a membership type, skip the other answers

- Section II. Classes/Trips Selection

- **Select classes and trips according to the type of membership**

Pay your membership dues (see Registration Form) and class fees (if you take classes/trips associated with fees).

FORMS

Forms in Electronic format are available on the ILR website: www.ilretirement.org or upon request by email.

Forms - hard copies are available at the ILR office. Printable forms in PDF format are available from the website.

For more information: contact the ILR staff at info@ilretirement.org

PAYMENT

Membership dues and class fees are to be paid **at the time of registration**, by **check or cash**.

!! Do not wait for an Invoice !!

Note: Membership types and dues have CHANGED!

Make checks payable to ILR, Inc. Bring or mail them to the office:

ILR, Inc.
165 Elm Street, Slippery Rock, PA 16057

REFUND

Membership dues are refunded only before the semester starts, March 9, 2026.

Class/Trip associated fees are refundable up to the deadline as specified in the Class/Trip Catalog.

ENROLLMENT

After receiving your membership dues, the ILR staff will enroll you in classes and trips on a space-available basis.

Enrollment is done on first come first served basis.

MEMBERSHIP includes:

- **Print catalog** upon request (the current catalog can be printed from the ILR website as well).
- **Calendar** with the ILR current semester offerings - mark your selections!
- Copy of your Membership Registration Form, including **your class/trip selection** (ask the ILR staff).
- **Membership card** and (if you are a new member) a **name tag holder**. Wear the card in all classes/trips.
- **Receipt** of your payment, including your account balance.
- **Rights and responsibilities.**

QUICK GUIDE

CLASS TITLE	INSTRUCTOR
Afternoon Tea	Jessie McMenamin
The Air Force in the Civil War	James Carnes
Alaska Fishing	Sherri Schleiter
Alaska. The Real Alaska	Bob Watson
Artistic Mediums Workshop	Lisa Henricks
Audrey Hepburn Films	Dale Doran
Australia Adventure (F & Z)	Janet Leise
Beginner Art in Watercolor	Antonia Thomas
Behind the Scenes of <i>It's a Wonderful Life</i>	Bill May
Bible Women of the New Testament	Verna Call
Book Club	Janet Leise
The Brontes	Phillip Atteberry
Brown Bag Lunch – BONUS! Social!	Janet Leise & Social Committee
Christmas Songs	Janet Leise
Cocktails, Craft, and Company	Jack Livingston
Collette - Travel (F & Z) – BONUS! Fundraising!	Matt D'Eramo, C. Holland & FR Com.
Communication's Holy Grail	Cliff Brown
Crutches, Nonprofit	Barrett DeRubeis McGinnis
David McCullough's 1776	Jessie McMenamin
Discovering the Enneagram	John Golden
Drum Circle	Janet Leise
Dwarf Planets (Z)	Krishna Mukherjee
Eagles. U.S. Steel Bald Eagle Talk	Don German
Expanding Horizons: Australia and Thailand	Dr. Robert Snyder
Faces and Places of Butler in the Civil War	Bill May
Fall Treats Festival – BONUS! Social!	Janet Leise & Social Committee
First Responders - PA's Wildlife (WIN)	Julia Meredith
The Galapagos Islands	Karen Martin
Games	Dale Doran
Geology of Moraine and McConnells Mill State Parks	Gary Fleeger
Global History of Christianity in the First Millenium	Mark Graham
Golf Course - the Only Free One in the USA	Larry Klemens
Green Burial: the Way to Go	Laura Faessel
Grinding the Grains at McConnells Mill State Park	Polly Shaw
Healthcare and Retirement - Non-Medicare Options	Rachael Westover
Holiday History - New Nation to New Year (F & Z)	Steve Cicero
Iceland Travel	Karen Martin
Inca. The Amazing Inca	Linda Winkler
Independence through a Canine Companion	Derek Hought
Just War Theories	Robert Kochems
Local Day Trips – BONUS!	Jessie McMenamin
Mahjong for Beginners	Lynn Hrabosky
Medicare 101	Julie Hagan
Mobility Games	Sherri Schleiter
Music and Health	Vern Miller
Music Notation: an Introduction	Janet Leise
Nathaniel Hawthorne: Essential American Novelist	Ruth Cole
Nutrition 101	Breanna Perkins

CLASS TITLE	INSTRUCTOR
Pacific Northwest Journey (F & Z)	Verna Call
PA Wildlife Success Stories	James Daley
Protecting Your Home	Jeff Roth
Racism in Everyday Encounters	Linda Burns
Shackleton's Antarctic Expedition	Tom Call
Slippery Rock Heritage Association Inc.	Sue Barkley
Teaching at ILR	Sherri Schleiter
Thomas Stonewall Jackson	James Carnes
Timeless Audrey - The Other Hepburn (F & Z)	Steve Cicero
Tips for Good Dental Health as We Age	Douglas Lockawich
Titusville from Different Perspectives	Cindy Andes
Truck Driving Explored	Howard Glass
Ukulele for Beginners	Janet Leise
Ukulele Jam and Sing	Janet Leise
What is AI? The Emperor's New AI	Sam Thangiah
Writing and Editing Your Own Work	Antonia Thomas
Writers Workshop	Dorie Schleiden
WWII Torpedo Testing at Pymatuning State Park	Jared McGary

TRIP TITLE	FACILITATOR
ILR Holiday Gathering – BONUS! Social!	Janet Leise & Social Committee
Apples at Emmett's Orchard	Ruth Leo
Art and Various Methods to Create It	Benjamin Robertson
Bike Ride - Grove City	Rich Thornhill
Birds at the National Aviary	Linda Winkler
The Buhl Mansion	Greg Sferra
Clay Experience at PennOhio Clay Guild	Septimus Bean
Coherent Corp Tour in Saxonburg, PA	Greg Sferra
FITTER Pickleball	Michael Holmstrup
Golf - Free at Buhl Park, Mercer, PA	Larry Klemens
Gene's Lionel Train Display	Greg Sferra
Hoyt Period House	Greg Sferra
Lutheran Senior Life Passavant Community	Greg Sferra
Macoskey Center at SRU	Greg Sferra
Metalware and Mining in Exhibits	Ruth Leo
Opera - Orpheus & Eurydice	Dale Doran
Opera Rigoletto	Dale Doran
Orienteering 101	Megan McDowell
Out and About Club	Janet Leise
Pizza in the Park	Cathryn Crego
Rock Crawling 101	Tom Baumgardner
Spooky Critters of PA	Emma Sprowls
SRU & SAGA Exhibition at Martha Gault Art Gallery	Linda Burns
Tarbell House - Tour and Tea	Linda Burns
Wine & Dine	Kathy Flood
The Zelienople Story	Greg Sferra
Zoo. Exploring the Pittsburgh Zoo	Linda Winkler

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

In-person classes are held at Fowler Building (F). Online classes are held on Zoom (Z).

Afternoon Tea. Jessie McMenamin

1-session

In-person: Tue. 9/29; 2:00 - 3:30

Let's enjoy an afternoon tea with good company..., and a variety of teas, small sandwiches, and sweets! Feel free to dress up with a hat or gloves if you like. I'll divide the costs among the participants, and it will probably be between \$3 to \$5....payable that day.

Participants: Min 8, Max 16

The Air Force in the Civil War. James Carnes

1-session

In-person: Tue. 11/10; 10:00 - 11:30

Learn how hot air balloons were used in the Civil War. Find out which army had the best balloons, how the use of balloons made a difference when they carried men aloft to observe movements of the enemy, and how they avoided being shot down.

Alaska Fishing. Commercial and Recreational Fishing in Alaska Historic and Present Day.

Sherri Schleiter

1-session

In-person: Mon. 11/16; 10:00 - 11:30

Fishing both commercial and recreational, has played an important part in the daily lives of those living in and visiting Alaska. Learn about historical practices and current opportunities. Develop an understanding of subsistence fishing for Alaska Natives and those living off the grid. Understand assembly line procedures. Explore recreational fishing opportunities in Alaska.

Alaska. The Real Alaska. Bob Watson

1-session

In-person: Tue. 11/3; 2:00 - 3:30

Many people have enjoyed Alaskan cruises, bus or rail tours. Frankly, this is only the tip of the iceberg! Come and enjoy the spectacular wilderness scenery of Alaska from Kodiak Island to the Brooks Range without the fear of Bears! The program will be presented by Dr. Robert Watson, who has hunted and fished several areas of Alaska over the past 20 years. Alaskan snacks will be offered.

Participants: Min 6, Max 30

Artistic Mediums Workshop. Lisa Henricks



10-session

In-person: Wed. 9/16 - 11/18; 10:00 - 1:00

A class for beginners to seasoned artists who will explore different mediums from watercolors, acrylics, pastels, mixed paper mediums throughout the semester. Learning from each other and exploring new ideas that will help to stimulate the creative side we all have. Join us for fun and explore the many mediums of art!

We are all here to learn and share in this class.

Participants: Min 5, Max 15

Audrey Hepburn Films. Dale Doran & Steve Cicero



10-session

In-person: Wed. 9/16 - 11/18; 1:00 - 4:00

The class will view 10 films starring Audrey Hepburn through 10 weekly sessions. Hepburn, a British actress and humanitarian, known for her grace and iconic roles and ranked by the American Film Institute as the third greatest female screen legend from the Classical Hollywood cinema. Recognized as a film and fashion star, she was inducted into the International Best Dressed Hall of Fame and is one of only a few entertainers who have won an Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, and Tony (EGOT).

Participants: Min 2

Australia Adventure. Janet Leise

3-session

In-person: Tue. 9/22, 29, 10/6; 12:00 - 1:30

Online: Mon. 10/12, 19, 26; 7:00 - 8:30

Australia is AWESOME! We will dive into all things Australia in this three-part class. We will learn about its natural beauty, fascinating history, and fun quirks. We will explore the Sydney Opera House, Great Barrier Reef, and Great Ocean Road and get off the beaten track to see the real Australia. This class is a repeat of Janet's June 2023 adventure in Australia. Part 1: Sydney, Part 2: Queensland, Part 3: Melbourne.

Beginner Art: Pet Portraiture, Watercolor. Antonia Thomas

4-session

In-person: Wed. 10/7 - 28; 2:00 - 4:00

Over four classes, students will create a portrait or two of a pet from a favorite photograph or photographs they provide. Students will also provide their own watercolors, brushes, and water containers. Students may also bring watercolor pencils or colored pencils in addition. The instructor will provide quality watercolor paper.

Behind the Scenes of "It's a Wonderful Life." Bill May

1-session

In-person: Wed. 11/18; 11:00 - 12:00

Celebrate Christmas a little early with storyteller Bill May's *Behind the Scenes of "It's a Wonderful Life."* We will hear tales of Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed. We will see clips from the movie of cast members that you may remember from their other famous roles. Also, we will take a peek at some of the more fascinating production secrets that were used to make this a beloved Christmas classic.

Bible Women of the New Testament (3). Verna Call

4-session

In-person: Mon. 9/14, 10/5, 10/26, 11/16; 2:00 - 3:30

The Bible Study will focus on the Gospel stories of the women of the New Testament from Jesus' birth to early ministry. In a period of brutal Roman occupation, the Jewish people not only struggled to survive, but also hoped for the long-awaited Messiah to come and save them. We will start with Mary, Elizabeth, and Anna at Jesus' birth. We will then study women who Jesus healed, such as the mother-in-law of Peter, a bleeding woman, Canaanite woman's daughter, and others. We will also look at Jesus' interaction with other unlikely women.

Book Club. Janet Leise & Debbie Bell

3-session

In-person: Tue. 9/15, 10/13, 11/10; 12:00 - 1:30

Love to read? Here's your chance to discuss a wide variety of books with other bibliophiles. We read fiction, non-fiction, memoirs, biographies, and histories to name a few, and you get to choose the selections for the following semester! This Fall we will discuss: September: *When We Had Wings* by Ariel Lawhon, Kristina McMorris, and Susan Meissner; October: *The Book Club for Troublesome Women* by Marie Bostwick; November: *The Mysteries of Pittsburgh* by Michael Chabon.

The Brontes. Phillip Atteberry

2-session

In-person: Tue. 9/29, 10/6; 10:00 - 11:30

This is a two-session class. The first session will present an introduction to the Bronte family, focusing on historical context and family dynamics. The second session will provide an introduction to the Bronte novels and consider their place in English fiction. Both classes will feature PowerPoint slides. It is not necessary to have read any of the Bronte novels for this class. I will avoid spoilers.

Brown Bag Lunch. Janet Leise & Social Committee – BONUS!



3-session

In-person: Tue. 09/15, 10/6, 11/3; 11:00 - 12:00

Bring your lunch (not too messy or smelly) and socialize with your fellow members.
Participants: Min 5, Max 35

Christmas Songs. Janet Leise

1-session

In-person: Tue. 11/17; 2:00 - 3:30

Christmas will be here before you know it! Let's kick off the festivities with music! Featuring "Wild Clover" and ILR's own "Strummin' Ukes", we will present a Christmas sing-along with a little bit of background about each song and time to share holiday memories. Dig out your Christmas sweater and join us! Please bring snacks and nonalcoholic drinks to share.



Cocktails, Craft and Company: The Art of the Home Bar. Jack Livingston

5-session

In-person: Thu. 10/22 - 11/19; 4:00 - 5:00

Join Jack Livingston, a seasoned bartender and former distiller, for a spirited five-week journey into the world of classic cocktails and home entertaining. With a career that spans Tiki Bars of the Virgin Islands, college bars and pubs, and ownership of MLH Distillery and Cocktail Lounge - where he served as both distiller and recipe developer - Jack brings a wealth of hands-on expertise to every pour. This course will cover the fundamentals of bartending technique, a curated tour of timeless classic cocktails, and practical guidance on building a well-stocked home bar that is always ready for guests. Whether you are new to mixing drinks or simply looking to elevate your entertaining game, this class offers a relaxed, engaging, and delicious way to spend your fall. The class will be conducted five consecutive Thursdays afternoons, between October 22 and November 19, from 4:00 to 5:00 pm, at the Fowler Building.

Participants: Min 6, Max 20

Collette - Travel with the ILR. BONUS – Fundraising!

Matt D'Eramo & Carol Holland

1-session

In-person: Mon. 09/14; 12:00 - 1:30

Online: Thu. 09/17; 7:00 - 8:30

The ILR is traveling again! The Fund-Raising committee has revived the ILR *partnership* with Collette Travel to offer travel opportunities to ILR members and friends. Come and hear about travel opportunities to the Badlands in South Dakota ([Spotlight on South Dakota featuring Mount Rushmore & The Badlands May 28 – Jun 3, 2027](#)) and the Maritimes in Canada ([Canadian Maritimes and Coastal Wonders featuring the Cabot Trail - Sep 10 – 20, 2027](#)). Bring anyone who might be interested, family, friends, neighbor - not just ILR members.

Communication's Holy Grail. Cliff Brown

1-session

In-person: Tue. 10/27; 10:00 - 11:30

One-hundred years ago this year, two men spoke to each other by phone across the Atlantic Ocean. The 3000-mile call between New York and London was achieved partly through wires and partly by radio waves. Struggling above the static, the two men spoke briefly about the weather and their changing world. The audio recording is preserved today in the Library of Congress (USA). Despite being the first inter-continental trans-

Atlantic phone conversation, nobody knows who the two men were. Cliff Brown will unravel the history behind Communication's Holy Grail.

Crutches. Nonprofit Management and Community Service. Barrett DeRubeis McGinnis

1-session

In-person: Tue. 9/15; 11:00 - 12:00

I discuss my process with the Rotary and other nonprofits I've worked with in the past, as well as my role as oversight from Erie to Cranberry. I encourage people to donate to my current endeavors with Crutches 4 Africa.

David McCullough's 1776. Jessie McMenamin

1-session

In-person: Wed. 10/28; 11:00 - 12:00

This year we're celebrating our nation's 250th birthday! In 1776, the thirteen American colonies declared their independence from Great Britain to form the United States. This year was of course highlighted by the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. This class will look at this iconic year through the Pulitzer Prize winning author, David McCullough's book with the same title, 1776, and we'll have a discussion of this work. I'd like to lead future classes on McCullough's other notable historic works such as Truman and John Adams.
Participants: Min 8, Max 30

Discovering the Enneagram: Understanding Yourself and Others in the Next Chapter of Life.

John Golden

1-session

In-person: Tue. 11/17; 12:00 - 1:30

Why do we do what we do? The Enneagram is a simple yet powerful personality system that helps us better understand ourselves and others. In this engaging class, you'll explore the nine Enneagram types, discover your unique strengths and challenges, and learn how personality influences relationships, communication, and personal growth. Whether you're new to the Enneagram or have some experience with it, this class offers an enjoyable opportunity for reflection, conversation, and lifelong learning.

Drum Circle. Janet Leise

3-session

In-person: Tue. 9/22, 10/13, 11/10; 2:00 - 3:30

Let's explore rhythm and make music together in a safe, healthy and fun group. No previous musical experience or talent is needed. Percussion instruments and hand drums will be provided, although you may bring your own. Each drum circle will include beginner instructions and will be appropriate for returning participants as well.
Participants: Max 15

Dwarf Planets. Krishna Mukherjee

4-session

Online: Wed. 9/16 - 10/7; 9:30 - 10:30

Study Dwarf Planets in the Solar System

Participants: Min 5, Max 20

Eagles. U. S. Steel Bald Eagle Talk. Don German

1-session

In-person: Mon. 10/12; 12:00 - 2:00

The presentation includes fun facts about Bald Eagles and the recent story of Rosie and Hutch, two juvenile Bald Eagles rescued from the nest.

Participants: Min 20, Max 25

Expanding Horizons: Faculty-led SRU Student Travel to Australia and Thailand. Robert Snyder

1-session

In-person: Tue. 11/10; 2:00 - 3:30

Dr. Robert Snyder presents his experiences leading immersive, service-learning travel programs abroad. He guided 16 students to Little Desert National Park near Melbourne, where they contributed to koala habitat restoration efforts, and led 12 students to the Ran Tong elephant rescue sanctuary near Chiang Mai, Thailand. In addition to their conservation work, both programs offered rich opportunities for students to engage with the diverse landscapes, cultures, and communities of Australia and Thailand.

Participants: Min 6, Max 30

Faces and Places of Butler in the Civil War. Bill May

1-session

In-person: Wed. 11/4; 11:00 - 12:00

Bill May of Butler, PA, will take us on a journey to Butler, to meet the men/women and places connected to the Civil War. Using colorization and AI and immersive storytelling, Bill's stories come to life! You do not want to miss the tales of the cannons and monument in Diamond Park, the man who transported Abraham Lincoln in his horse and carriage, the women who helped John Wilkes Booth during his escape, one of the first battle reenactments in the country, the Civil War orphanage and the inspiring story of the "Fighting Chaplain." These stories and many more fascinating stories await the audience.

Participants: Min 20



Fall Treats Festival. Janet Leise & Social Committee – BONUS!

1-session

In-person: Wed. 10/7; 10:00 - 12:00

Bring your own lunch (nothing too messy or smelly) and your favorite fall treat to share for nourishment and socialization. Coffee, tea, and apple cider will be provided.

Participants: Min 10, Max 35

First Responders. PA's Volunteer Wildlife First Responders - WIN. Julia Meredith

1-session

In-person: Tue. 9/22; 10:00 - 11:30

WIN is a volunteer group of nature lovers dedicated to educating Pennsylvanians on how to help wildlife in emergencies involving safe capture and transport for care at qualified rehabilitation facilities. What should you do if you see injured deer? Birds? Other mammals? Is there anything you can (or should) do besides call for help? How can you help educate friends and neighbors when you see wildlife in distress? Come hear WIN volunteer Julia Meredith provides a fascinating overview of the WIN organization, stories of amazing rescues, and important information for saving Pennsylvania wildlife in need.

The Galapagos Islands - a Visit. Karen Martin

1-session

In-person: Mon. 9/28; 10:00 - 11:00

Photos from a trip to the Galapagos Islands including general information about travel there.

Games (for Lifelong Learners, Fun and Social Times). Dale Doran



5-session

In-person: Mon. 9/14 - 10/12; 12:00 - 2:00

Are you "game"? Then this class is for you! Come, enjoy a variety of games for your entertainment-strategy, word, trivia, number, card, dice, and "be-quickest" games. Learn about new games and revisit old favorites. You won't be "board".

Geology of Moraine and McConnells Mill State Parks. Gary Fleeger

1-session

In-person: Mon. 10/12; 10:00 - 11:00

Moraine and McConnells Mill State Parks are intimately related geologically, both with the ancient bedrock geology, as well as the more recent glacial geology. The class will explain the geologic origins of the parks and "tour" various geologic sites in and near the parks. We'll also discuss several practical applications of our geologic knowledge of the parks.

Global History of Christianity in the First Millenium. Mark Graham

1-session

In-person: Wed. 11/4; 2:00 - 4:00

Using his recently published book "Thirty Key Moments in the History of Christianity," Dr. Graham will present several key happenings in the first millennium about the history of Christianity that are unknown to most people. You will learn how the Church spread, triumphed and struggled over the early centuries. Examples from three continents include The Birth of the 1st Christian Nation (Armenia, 301 or 314), "The Way" Arrives in Tang Dynasty, China (Xi'an, 635), Christian "Pupil Smitters" of Nubia Save Their Church-Twice (Sudan, 642 and 652). Participants: Min 10, Max 35

Golf Course - the Only Free One in the USA - Talk. Larry Klemens & Adam Scott

1-session

In-person: Mon. 9/28; 2:00 - 3:30

Part I: The story of the only free golf course. Its inception, history and how it operates today and what it has to offer the community it serves. Hear how the vision of one man has enriched and shaped a local community for over 100 years. The free golf course is one of the jewels that Sharon community members enjoy at no cost because of the vision and philosophy of Frank H. Buhl. Learn the story of the birth of Buhl Park and the evolution of its most unique feature, the free golf course locally known as Dum Dum. For those interested in playing the course, experiencing golfing on a simulator, and using the driving range refer to the trip section to sign-up.

Part II: Participants will travel to Sharon (see the Trips section) where they will have a demonstration of the golf simulators as well as hit a few balls, tour the pro shop, and learn about the programs and services available to the community. They will also be able to hit some balls at no charge on the driving range. They can conclude this experience by playing 9 holes on the only free golf course in the USA.

Participants: Min 8, Max 15

Green Burial: the Way to Go. Laura Faessel & Deanna Mance

1-session

In-person: Wed. 11/11; 2:00 - 4:00

Curious about green burial? Join us for a 90-minute course exploring eco-friendly end-of-life choices and their benefits for people and the planet. We'll look at burial and funeral traditions through history and how practices have evolved. Delve into green burial and other alternative options as meaningful ways to align end-of-life decisions with personal, cultural, and environmental values. Explore end-of-life planning with tools to help you envision your wishes and create a meaningful ceremony. This thought-provoking course provides the opportunity to reflect on our finite lives and break the taboo of discussing death and dying in a supportive and open environment.

Participants: Min 10

Grinding the Grains at McConnells Mill State Park. Polly Shaw

1-session

In-person: Wed. 10/14; 10:00 - 11:30

The Old Mill, a focal point of McConnells Mill State Park, was in operation from 1854-1928. The grist mill processed wheat, buckwheat, corn, and oats. This program shares a photo tour of the Old Mill to learn about each grain, and the machinery used to turn the grain into flour, corn meal, and animal feed. We'll also "meet" the people who operated the mill, and how power was harnessed from the Slippery Rock Creek to operate the machinery.

Participants: Min 5

Healthcare and Retirement - Non-Medicare Options. Rachael Westover & Kerry Cassidy

1-session

In-person: Thu. 10/08; 12:00 - 1:00

Want to retire, but not sure how to ensure you are adequately covering your healthcare needs without breaking the bank? Learn the basics of options after you retire and before you become Medicare eligible. This event is only for educational purposes; no plan specific benefits or details will be shared.

Holiday History - New Nation to New Year. Steve Cicero

1-session

In-person: TBD

Online by Zoom: Tue. 9/15; 7:00 - 8:00

Our calendars are full of holidays and days of remembrance. Most of them are based on past people or events. So, where do they come from and what do they represent? In this program we will discuss ten holidays from Independence Day - July 4th to the New Years Day - January 1st. Some are more well known than others, but they all have a unique and fascinating history.

Participants: Min 3

Iceland. Traveling in Iceland. Karen Martin

1-session

In-person: Mon. 10/5; 10:00 - 11:00

Photos of a trip to Iceland and general information about traveling there.

Inca. The Amazing Inca. Linda Winkler

1-session

In-person: Tue. 11/17; 10:00 - 11:30

The Inca established the largest pre-Columbian empire in the Americas controlling a vast and diverse territory. Their empire was relatively short (less than two centuries), but their accomplishments in architecture, infrastructure development (including 25,000 miles of roads), harnessing diverse environments, and managing a multicultural empire are noteworthy. This presentation will survey their rise in the Andes, their many accomplishments, cultural elements important to ruling the empire, and finally, their decline after pre-Columbian contact.

Independence through a Canine Companion. Derek Hought

1-session

In-person: Tue. 10/13; 2:00 - 3:00

An introduction to Canine Companions and its mission: to enhance the lives of people with disabilities by providing highly trained service dogs at no cost to the recipient. It will be followed by a short demonstration of some of the skills by a puppy in training.

Participants: Min 10

Just War. Exploring the History and Meaning of "Just War" Theories. Robert Kochems

3-session

In-person: Tue. 10/13, 20, 27; 12:00 - 2:00

We will explore the history and theories that relate to the definition of a "Just War", and how that term has evolved or not over time. We will also look at why that term is important, evolving, and its effect on individuals who use it.

Participants: Min 5



Local Day Trips. Jessie McMenamin – BONUS!

1-session

In-person: Tue. 9/15; 10:00 - 11:00

I've been asked by ILR members if I could present a class on possible one day trips for our members. I'm employed by Anderson Coach and Travel, Greenville, PA and they provide a variety of interesting local one day trips. This would not be a fundraiser. Rather, it would be a way for our membership to identify and take a local day trip together to promote friendship and a fun experience! Sign up and we'll discuss the possibilities.

Participants: Min 10



Mahjong for Beginners. Lynn Hrabosky

5-session

In-person: Tue. 10/20 - 11/19; 10:00 - 11:30

Registration Deadline: 10/5/2026

Learn to play mahjong. Mahjong is a tile-based game of skill, strategy, and luck that originated in China in the 19th century. Typically played by four people with a set of 144 intricately designed tiles, it is similar in concept to card games like Gin Rummy. Each participant needs a card (\$13.00) from the National Mahjong League.

Class Fee: \$13.00/participant, payable to the ILR at the time of registration.

Participants: Min 4, Max 8

Medicare 101. Julie Hagan & Kerry Cassidy

1-session

In-person: Thu. 10/01; 12:00 - 1:00

Confused by Medicare? What is Part A, B, C, D? What is the difference between a Medicare Supplement and a Medicare Advantage Plan? When can I make changes? Learn the basics of Medicare eligible health insurance options in retirement. This event is only for educational purposes; no plan specific benefits or details will be shared.

Mobility Games. Sherri Schleiter & Janet Leise

1-session

In-person: Tue. 11/3; 12:00 - 1:30

Want to have fun playing mobility friendly games? Then this class is for you. We will use items that you can find around your home so that you can play them later. One game will use a parachute. Be prepared to laugh, have fun and engage in gentle movements.

Music and Health. Vern Miller

3-session

In-person: Mon. 9/21, 28. 10/5; 12:00 - 1:00

This presentation provides an overview of the field of music therapy, including its historical development and current clinical applications. Attendees will explore how music therapists use music intentionally to support health, wellness, and therapeutic goals across diverse populations. Participants will also have the opportunity to experience how music affects the body and brain by scanning brainwaves using EEG and using various physiological sensors. Attendees will gain practical insights into how music can be used intentionally to promote well-being in everyday life.

Music Notation: An Introduction. Janet Leise

3-session

In-person: Mon.10/26 - 11/9; 10:00 - 11:00

Would you like to have a better understanding of all the dots and lines on a sheet of music? This is the class for you! During three sessions, you will learn the basics of reading a new written language: music. Each class will build on the prior class.

Nathaniel Hawthorne: Essential American Novelist. Ruth Cole

2-session

In-person: Thu. 10/1; Part 1.10:00 - 11:30, Part 2. 1:30 - 3:00

Critical to understanding American literature and history in this 250th anniversary year of our nation is a study of New England's Nathaniel Hawthorne. Steeped in Massachusetts and its post Puritan times in Boston, Salem, and Concord, this classic author combined his heritage with his deeply reflective literary talents. Whether short story or novel, the author developed settings, characters, and plots that intrigue the reader and create both timeless examinations and fascinating debate. With the short story Young Goodman Brown and Hester Prynne of Scarlet Letter - both important to pursue, reading and discussion time should be wonderfully rewarding.

Nutrition 101. Breanna Perkins

1-session

In-person: Mon. 10/19; 10:00 - 11:00

Come learn about the fundamentals of nutrition. During this session we will cover label reading, reducing fat, salt and sugar as well as how to create a balanced plate. We base our lesson on the American Heart Association guidelines. Class will include a healthy food tasting.
Participants: Min 10, Max 35

Pacific Northwest Journey. Verna Call

2-session

In-person: Tue. 9/22, 29; 2:00 - 3:30

Online: Tue. 9/22, 29; 7:00 - 8:30

Join a spectacular trip to the Pacific Northwest to California. The journey begins in Seattle's lively Public Market, Space Needle, and Chihuly Glass Garden. Taking a Ferry across Puget Sound, we head to Portland,

Oregon, with stops at Mount St. Helens, Rose Gardens, and Multnomah Falls. The rugged rocky Pacific Coast awaits us with cormorants, sea lions, and wonders of nature. Along the way to San Francisco, we visit California State/National Parks full of giant ancient Redwoods and coastal forests. In the city we watch out for WAYMOS, visit the Japanese Gardens, Fisherman's Wharf air show, and Chinatown.

PA Wildlife Success Stories. James Daley

1-session

In-person: Wed. 9/30; 2:00 - 3:30

Pennsylvania has had many notable wildlife restoration successes including whitetail deer, elk, bald eagles, ospreys, river otters, and fishers. How these species were brought back to thrive today will be presented.

Protecting Your Home: Burglary Prevention Basics. Jeff Roth

1-session

In-person: Tue. 10/27; 2:00 - 3:00

This class introduces practical strategies for reducing residential burglary risk by examining how burglars evaluate potential targets. Drawing on interviews with incarcerated burglars and research on target selection, the session explains how features such as occupancy cues, visibility, and accessibility influence burglary decisions. Participants will learn common mistakes residents make when assessing their own home security. The class emphasizes simple, realistic prevention steps that can make a home less attractive, less accessible, and riskier for burglars to target.

Participants: Min 10.

Racism in Everyday Encounters. Linda Burns

1-session

In-person: Wed. 10/21; 10:00 - 11:30

We will begin with a discussion of different types of racism. We will then focus on actions and words that may be perceived as racist even when that is not the intention. Examples from a number of sources will be reviewed and discussed. The goal of the class is to increase our awareness of the ways in which social interaction is subject to different interpretations and to help us avoid unintentional offences.

Participants: Min 6, Max 14

Shackleton's Antarctic Expedition. Tom Call

2-session

In-person: Mon. 10/12, 19; 2:00 - 3:30

Months of sub-zero temperatures. Endless hours of darkness. Windiest place in the world. Oceans with giant creatures and world's highest waves. In that environment . . . Imagine 282 days confined to an ice-bound ship, 137 days marooned on a glacial island, 165 days camping on surface ice, and 7 days rowing a lifeboat while gale-force winds soak your face and clothing. Additionally, three sailors climbed snow-covered mountains without shelter, gear, or maps. Shackleton's Antarctic Expedition is the greatest survival saga ever. Class is updated from 4 years ago and in two sessions. It includes personal stories of crew members.

Slippery Rock Heritage Association, Inc. Past and Present. Sue Barkley

1-session

In-person: Thu. 10/8; 1:00 - 2:00

How the Heritage Association began. Programs and projects over the years.

Teaching at ILR. Sherri Schleiter

1-session

In-person: Mon. 11/9; 2:00 - 3:30

Are you interested in teaching an ILR class? If so, then this class is for you. We will go over specific things useful for the ILR as well as general presentation ideas and skills. We will also discuss the possibility of teaching as a collaboration effort with another presenter. This can be especially helpful if you might want support to teach a class. This class can assist ILR members who are inviting other guest speakers to teach at ILR.

Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson. James Carnes

1-session

In-person: Tue. 10/20; 10:00 - 11:30

This presentation covers the life and career of Thomas Stonewall Jackson. Learn about how an orphaned child made it to West Point to become a tactical genius and Robert E. Lee's right-hand man, and how he got his middle name.

"Timeless Audrey" - The Other Hepburn. Steve Cicero

1-session

In-person: Tue. 9/15; 2:00 - 3:00

Online by Zoom: Mon. 9/14; 7:00 - 8:00

Actress and humanitarian Audrey Hepburn remains one of Hollywood's greatest style icons and one of the world's most successful actresses. She served with the Dutch resistance in World War II before finding lasting fame and fortune on stage and screen. Starting a legendary career, she won an Oscar for her first film in America, followed by a Tony award on Broadway the same year. This class serves as the introduction to the film series, but anyone can attend this session.

Participants: Min 3

Tips for good dental health as we age. Douglas Lockawich

1-session

In-person: Mon. 09/14; 10:00 - 11:30

The presentation will explain how dental decay, gum disease, and oral cancer become more prevalent.
Participants: Min 7

Titusville from Different Perspectives. Cindy Andes

1-session

In-person: Tue. 10/13; 10:00 - 11:00

This presentation is designed to introduce participants to the not so well-known discoveries and social history of the famous site of the beginning of the oil industry. Based on the research and publications of the presenter, there will be multiple "revelations" about the site itself, and many people, places, and things connected to the town and the industry.

Participants: Min 5

Truck Driving Explored. Howard Glass

1-session

In-person: Mon. 9/21; 2:00 - 4:00

Truck driving presents many challenges and rewards. Learn about these as Howard Glass returns to class at ILR to describe his 35 years as an over-the road truck driver and the many changes that he experienced. He will compare his experiences to those of his son who presently continues in the field. What type of training is required for truckers? Safety on the highways should be paramount! Recently, there has been much in the news about some truck drivers being involved in fatal accidents. Some of this has been attributed to a lack of training and problems with understanding English. We will learn about specific laws that are "on the books" nationally and in individual states. How are they enforced? Come with your questions.

Participants: Min 5

Ukulele for Beginners. Janet Leise, Andy & Peggy Johnson

4-session

In-person: Wed. 10/07 - 28; 2:00 - 3:30

This four-session class will teach you the basics of uke tuning, chords, and strumming. You will learn to play a simple song in the first class. This class is a low pressure/high reward experience. Our three instructors will give you lots of attention as they gently guide you into the realm of the uke. When you sign up, please indicate if you are bringing a uke or are in need of a uke. Printed instructions, tuners, (if needed) free ukes, and materials will be provided. Best to attend all four classes.

Participants: Max 16

Ukulele Jam and Sing. Janet Leise, Andy & Peggy Johnson

3-session

In-person: Tue. 9/15, 10/6, 10/27; 3:00 - 4:30

Come join the Strummin' Ukes! This class is for graduates of our Beginning Ukulele class, or anyone who already knows a few chords on the ukulele and would like to play along with others in an informal setting. You must have your own ukulele. Also, if you just enjoy singing (primarily) folk songs, you are also welcome to participate. Check with instructors if you play another type of compatible instrument and would like to join us.

What is AI? The Emperor's New AI. Sam Thangiah

1-session

In-person: Mon. 11/2; 2:00 - 3:30

It will not be long before the coffee roasters start to claim that your morning cup of joe is infused with artificial intelligence (AI). Afterall, it seems like every product is using AI – even when some of these products really don't contain any intelligence. In this presentation, we will cover what is AI, what is the difference between a program that uses AI and an algorithm or computer program, the characteristics of an AI program and what are the risks and benefits of AI.

Participants: Min 6

Writing and Editing Your Own Work. Antonia Thomas



10-session

In-person: Thu. 09/17 - 11/19; 2:00 – 4:00

The class will consist of developing and writing short stories and/or creative nonfiction of varying lengths and revising and editing those works. With an emphasis on standard grammar and spelling, suggested revisions and edits for classmates' work and helpful critique of one another's work will be part of the class.

Writers Workshop. Dorie Schleiden & Meg Salizzoni



10-session

In-person: Mon. 09/14 - 11/16; 10:00 - 12:00

This is a chance for authors to enjoy a supportive community. We will share our work. We will help each other with revisions, and we will inspire each other to find our own unique voice. This workshop is meant to be unstructured. Its members will lead the way! Novice writers and those of you who have acquired a stuffed portfolio of stories, essays, and poems... all are welcome!

WWII Torpedo Testing at Pymatuning State Park. Jared McGary

1-session

In-person: Wed. 11/11; 10:00 11:30

Pymatuning Lake is so big, it is located in three counties: Crawford and Mercer in Pennsylvania and Ashtabula in Ohio. The lake is well known as the place where 'the ducks walk on the fish' at the surface of the water. However, what may be under the water has been a mystery for years. Pymatuning State Park played a very significant role in the World War II effort. Torpedoes were manufactured a few miles away at the Westinghouse Electric plant in Sharon. The plant made more than 10,000 MK-18 torpedoes which were electric, silent, and created no wake. Secret testing of the torpedoes was conducted at the southern end of the lake, near the current Jamestown Marina, and is still called Westinghouse Bay. This area of the lake provides 10 miles of open water north to the causeway. The torpedoes were not yet loaded with explosives and were designed to float back to the surface to be retrieved after the tests. Those that did not float back would send bubbles to the surface to show the testers where they were located underwater. However, there are theories that there could still be one or two remaining in the lake.

Participants: Min 6

**ILR Holiday Gathering. Janet Leise & Social Committee – BONUS!****1-session****Trip:** Mon. 12/7; 11:00 - 2:00

Join your fellow ILR members and friends for the annual Holiday Gathering. We will meet at Hoss's in Grove City and order from the menu (pay on your own). As per tradition, participants are invited to bring desserts to share. Hope to see you there!

Participants: Min 20, Max 40

Apples at Emmett's Orchard. Ruth Leo**1-session****Trip:** Thu. 9/24; 1:00 - 2:30

Enjoy a stroll through the orchard, visit the animals, pick up fall gifts at the gift shop, munch on delectable treats from the bakery, and buy apples and cider. The terrain in the orchard is rough and may be wet. Not appropriate for walkers or wheelchairs. There is paving in all other areas on the property but not in the orchard. Bring money for the bakery and the gift shop.

Participants: Min 3, Max 12

Art at Blackwood and Various Methods to Create It. Benjamin Robertson**1-session****Trip:** Thu. 10/22; 10:00 - 12:00

This will be a course on art and the various methods that artists used to make their pieces. Here, at Blackwood, there are examples of all the techniques that artists used. That includes original etchings by Rembrandt, original Sumi Ink paintings by Toko Shinoda, wonderful wood block prints by noted Japanese artists, original stone lithographs, oil paintings, and watercolors. I will lecture, display some of the artwork, and demonstrate how mezzotints are made. I will also take the group through the various rooms to show them the art and describe each piece. I can let each student look at them and show them how to distinguish each technique used. I would like to limit the attendance to 20 (or less) for a better instructor-attendees interaction and a more dynamic question-answer session. Carpooling would be ideal for parking reasons. Access to the buildings and restrooms is difficult for wheelchairs but easy for walkers.

Participants: Max 20

Bike Ride Grove City. Rich Thornhill**1-session****Trip:** Fri. 9/18; 10:00 - 11:30

We are going to do a 2.5 mile, very flat loop at Grove City Park, also known as the "Poop Loop" because not only does it loop around the soccer field, but it also meanders around the Grove City's municipal infrastructure. You can pick your mileage based on the number of loops you can do. There are restrooms along the loop. We are going to Grove City Dinner or Pizza Hut after the ride, and all are welcome to join us for lunch.

Participants: Min 3, Max 20

The Birds at the National Aviary. Linda Winkler

1-session

Trip: Thu. 11/12; 9:30 - 3:00

The National Aviary is the largest indoor aviary in the USA and home to hundreds of birds. You will see a variety of birds from around the world in indoor habitats. Many of these birds are rare and the aviary participates in breeding programs for some of them (African penguins). The trip will include a guided tour and being part of the daily show featuring the aviary bird stars.

One hour + to Aviary, timing depends on availability of tour, need time for parking also.

Fees: \$19.00 payable at the registration

Participants: Min 15

The Buhl Mansion. Greg Sferra & Carmen Aiello

1-session

Trip: Thu. 10/15; 1:30 - 2:30

The Buhl Mansion is a historic home located in Sharon, Pennsylvania, that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The mansion was built in 1891 by Frank H. Buhl who owned the Sharon Iron Works. The ashlar sandstone residence has 2.5 stories. Noted Youngstown architect Charles Henry Owsley designed it in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. The mansion features round arches, steep gable wall dormers, an inset porch with heavy arches, stone finials, and several turrets with copper capped spires. It currently operates as a bed and breakfast and wedding venue. Frank Buhl married Julia Forker, daughter of a prominent Sharon family and the house was his wedding gift for Julia. They became known for using their fortune to support the surrounding community. The Buhl's are responsible for the founding of the Christian H. Buhl hospital (now the Sharon Regional Hospital), the F.H. Buhl Club which featured music and social rooms, bowling alleys, billiard and games rooms, and a library.

Participants: Min 6

Clay Experience at PennOhio Clay Guild's Course. Septimus Bean – !Chance of \$50.00 G.C.

6-session



Trip: Thu. 10/15 - 11/19; 1:00 - 3:00

PennOhio Clay Guild (POCG) invites you to explore creativity in a relaxed, 6-week clay experience course. Participants will learn the stages of clay, the forming and firing process, and essential hand-building techniques. Focus is on hand-building as each week builds confidence and skill through guided demonstrations and plenty of hands-on practice. By the end of the course, you'll have created a number of unique finished pieces, enjoying both the satisfaction of making and the camaraderie of a welcoming studio community. Additional open studio hours are included in this course for those wanting an enhanced experience. More about POCG at <https://www.pennohioclayguild.org/> or call (724)201-1989. Each participant is required to pay a contribution to the studio to keep the lights on and materials costs covered. Fees: \$120.00/person, payable to POCG.

Participants: Min 3

Coherent Corp Tour Headquartered in Saxonburg, Pennsylvania. Greg Sferra & Sam Naples

1-session

Trip: Thu. 9/17; 10:00 - 11:30

Come for a technical tour of Saxonburg, Pennsylvania company founded in 1971. Coherent Corp. (formerly II-VI Incorporated) is an American manufacturer of optical materials, AI parts, crystal growth, and semiconductor components. The company has R&D, manufacturing, sales, service and distribution facilities in 130 worldwide locations. Coherent Corp. is a prospering company whose stock price has more than tripled in the last year and the company was recently added to S & P Five Hundred. Coherent Corp. is a secure facility that deals with US military components thus no foreign nationals nor photography equipment will be permitted during the facility tour. In advance, all registrants must provide their name, email address and phone number for review. Upon arrival at the facility, guests' identity will be confirmed.

Participants: Min 5, Max 16

FITTER Pickleball. Greg Sferra & Michael Holmstrup

1-session

Trip: Wed. 9/16; 2:00-4:00

Pickleball can help to keep you healthy, active, and connected. However, one injury can take it all away! Michael Holmstrup, SRU Exercise Science professor and author of the book FITTER Pickleball, will conduct a class that will focus on several basic movement patterns that participants can independently perform to improve both their normal activities of daily living and their pickleball performance. The class will take place in Patterson Hall, room 225, on the SRU campus and will include hands-on instruction in performing selected exercises from his program. Each participant will receive notes on how to put together a basic exercise program for pickleball. Copies of the book FITTER Pickleball, including access to a wonderful video series, will be available for an ILR special discounted rate after the class. Initiating a FITTER Pickleball workout will help you to get stronger, play longer, and keep showing up for the community that fuels you! We would LOVE to see you there!

Participants: Min 4, Max 20

Golf Play - Free at Buhl Park, Mercer, PA. Larry Klemens & Adam Scott

1-session

Trip: Wed. 9/30; 1:00 - 4:00

This is Part II of the Golf Class. Experience firsthand one of the jewels available in Buhl Park. A nine-hole golf course (The Only Free Golf Course in America) complete with driving range and pro shop. You will tour the pro shop, learn of all the services it offers, as well as experience golfing on a simulator and putting on the indoor high-tech putting surface. In addition, you are invited to hit a bucket of balls to warm-up to play America's only free golf course. The entire experience is free; trip size is limited to 15, and preference will be given to those who participate in the Part I, Golf-talk class conducted at Fowler.

Participants will meet at the golf course at 1PM and return by 4:00 PM.

Participants: Min 10, Max 15

Gene's Lionel Train Display. Greg Sferra & Gene McCandles

1-session

Trip: Thu. 11/12; 2:00 - 3:00

Gene's Lionel train layout is housed in a building that was constructed in the year 2000 and measures 56' x 24'. Two five-man teams built the 30' x 17' layout working one day a week for two years. The trains operate on five different levels with the capability of nine running simultaneously. All trains are O-gauge scale and all buildings, people and accessories are to scale. Trains can be viewed traversing mountain scenes, residential and county locations. Guests will see Lionel engines and rolling stock on display that have been collected over 74 years. A guest book shows visitors from as far away as Ukraine, Columbia and many USA states. Rest rooms are not available. Easy facility access.

Participants: Min 6, Max 16

Hoyt Period House. Greg Sferra & Bob Presnar

1-session

Trip: Thu. 11/19; 2:00 - 3:00

Step into the holiday magic of the Alex Crawford Hoyt Period House, where the 1917 Tudor Revival estate becomes a glittering winter wonderland. Twelve rooms feature more than 20 decorated trees and thousands of lights, all woven among the museum's collection of art and antiques. Take a tour to experience the seasonal splendor, architectural brilliance, and local history. There is a \$10.00/person admission fee, payable at gate.

Participants: Min 6, Max 24

Lutheran Senior Life Passavant Community. Greg Sferra & Midge Hobah

1-session

Trip: Thu. 11/5; 10:30 - 12:00

In preparing for an ever-changing life, imagine residing in a community where every day is filled with meaning and opportunity; where living an abundant life is made possible by nurturing your mind, body and spirit; where you can live life to the fullest today, and have peace of mind about tomorrow. Whether you're looking for residential living or require additional care, Passavant's supportive environment is designed to nurture the whole person – mind, body, and spirit - in every stage of life. Trip participants will meet at 105 Burgess Drive, Zelienople, PA, for a brief presentation, followed by brunch and campus tour. Parking is available at the front and back of the building.

Participants: Min 5, Max 25

Macoskey Center for Sustainability Education & Research at SRU. Greg Sferra & Samantha Bortz

1-session

Trip: Fri. 9/24; 01:00 - 03:00

The Macoskey Center is a 70-acre sustainability education, demonstration, and research center at Slippery Rock University. The center was founded in 1990 by Dr. Robert A. Macoskey and the ALTER Project. The tour will be guided by Samantha Bortz, Director of The Macoskey Center for Sustainability Education & Research. It will showcase renewable energy systems, gardens, homestead areas, and a new accessible trail and boardwalk! Be aware of uneven, rocky terrain, narrow sidewalks, and doorways.

Participants: Min 6, Max 25

Metalware and Mining in Exhibits. Ruth Leo

1-session

Trip: Fri. 10/23; 12:30 - 2:30

We will be touring the lowest level of the Grove City Historical Society and Museum to see the metalware collection. Skip Sample will orient us to the metalware exhibit. We will visit the newly opened Arthur Armour exhibit. Mr. Armour was a metalsmith. The Coal Mining exhibit is outfitted with a virtual reality option. Any available time may be spent on other exhibits. The basement level is accessed by stairs and a chairlift. The walking surface is somewhat irregular.

Arrive at 111 College Avenue at 12:30. End: 2:30-3:00.

Participants: Min 4, Max 12

Opera - Orpheus & Eurydice. Dale Doran

1-session

Trip: Sun. 11/22; 10:30 - 7:00

Registration Deadline: Nov. 4

A dramatic retelling of the classic Greek myth, focusing on musician Orpheus, who consumed by grief, is granted permission by Amor (Cupid) to enter the Underworld to rescue his beloved wife, Eurydice, without looking back at her, or lose her forever. A "visceral experience" the opera combines intense vocal performances with artistic, acrobatic movement to bring the story of love and loss to life. Known for prioritizing emotional dramatic effect, Gluck's celebrated, passionate score blends with aesthetic movement to explore themes of love, grief and longing. Music: Christoph Willibald Gluck, with instrumentation by Hector Berlioz. Libretto: Pierre-Louis Moline.

10:30 AM meet to carpool, 1:00 PM before performance talk, 2:00 performance starts, back to ILR for cars approximately 6:00 PM.

Fees: \$50.00 payable to the ILR at registration

Participants: Min 2

Opera Rigoletto. Dale Doran

1-session

Trip: Sun. 10/18; 10:30 - 7:00

Registration Deadline: Sep. 30

Rigoletto, a sharp-witted, hunchbacked court jester to the Duke of Mantua, defends his master's womanizing until the Duke seduces Gilda, his daughter. Rigoletto tries to protect her from the philandering Duke leading to a catastrophic quest for vengeance. The story revolves around themes of a cursed jester, vengeful plots and intense betrayal. The production is based on Victor Hugo's play *Le roi s'amuse* and is hailed as a masterpiece of drama and melody. Music-Giuseppe Verdi, Libretto-Francesco Maria Piave.

10:30 AM meet to carpool, 1:00 PM before performance talk, 2:00 performance starts and back to ILR for cars approximately 6:00 PM.

Fees: \$50.00 payable to the ILR at registration

Participants: Min 2

Orienteering 101. Megan McDowell

1-session

Trip: Thu. 9/24; 1:00 - 3:00

Join park staff to learn the art of orienteering. Learn how to read a map and use a compass. Then test your skills on a beginner's flag course. All equipment will be provided.

Participants: Min 5, Max 20

Out and About Club. Janet Leise

3-session

Trip: TBD

Festivals, craft fairs, and other special events are all hallmarks of Autumn in Pennsylvania! If you enjoy going to these activities and would like to meet up with an ILR friend or two. Let's go together! Come to one outing or come to them all. The facilitator will gather and distribute the information about each outing and email it to those who are registered for this class. Each participant will be expected to read and respond to emails and make their own transportation arrangements to the locations (Primarily Butler, Mercer, and Lawrence Counties).

Pizza in the Park. Cathryn Crego

1-session

Trip: Wed. 9/16; 11:00 - 1:00

Building a pizza is both art and science. Information will include equipment needed, ingredients, and a demonstration on how to construct a pizza. Pizza will be made during the demonstration, including gluten-free pizza (not dairy-free). No, demo pizza will not be wasted - we will eat it! There will be extensive discussion and recipes will be distributed. Bring your questions about pizza making. We will be using the outside covered area at Pavilion 7, rain or shine. Access to the pavilion is level and easily accessible.

Participants: Min 1, Max 20

Rock Crawling 101. Greg Sferra & Tom Baumgardner

1-session

Trip: Fri 9/25; 10:00 - 11:30

This is an introduction to the sport of rock crawling (RC). How a hike in the woods introduced me to RC cars and that led me to an obsession with rock crawlers. It is a great way to enjoy the outdoors while you watch your truck do the near impossible routes that your imagination dreams up. The different RC car disciplines will be explained and then crawlers will be demonstrated, with participants being allowed their turn behind the wheel of a RC Crawler. This is a great way to see what it is all about and to learn how to do it yourself. The course will last about 90 minutes, and there will be some hiking in the woods involved, so dress appropriately.

Participants: Min 6, Max 20

Spooky Critters of PA. Emma Sprowls

1-session

Trip: Fri. 10/02; 1:00 - 2:00

Dust off your spooky décor, Halloween is almost upon us! Get in the spirit of the spooky season by coming out to a program all about critters with a creepy reputation. Discover the true nature of these animals that make peoples' skin crawl. After the presentation we will set off on a short hike, weather permitting.

Participants: Min 6, Max 50.

SRU & SAGA Students Exhibition at Martha Gault Art Gallery. Linda Burns & Theresa Antonellis

1-session

Trip: Thu. 9/17; 10:00 - 11:15

We will have a guided tour of an exhibit at the Martha Gault Art Gallery on the SRU campus. The exhibit features both visual art and creative writing by SRU students and students from Saga University in Japan on the theme of "Chaos and Order." The exhibition will tour to Slippery Rock University in September 2026 and to Saga University in Japan in May 2027. Our tour will begin at 10:00 AM, one hour before the gallery opens to the public. Our guide will be Theresa Antonellis, Director of Martha Gault Art Gallery. Theresa Antonellis has an MFA from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst and degrees in studio arts and art history from Mount Holyoke College. She is a member of the Associated Artists of Pittsburgh.

Participants: Min 4, Max 16

Tarbell House - Tour and Tea. Linda Burns

1-session

Trip: TBD

The Tarbell House is the girlhood home of Ida Minerva Tarbell (1857-1944), a trailblazing investigative journalist. The restored house is now a museum and event space. We will tour the museum and enjoy a three-course tea served by students in period costume.

Fees: \$20.00 payable to the ILR at registration

Participants: Min 3, Max 12

Wine & Dine. Kathy Flood

3-session

Trip: Thu. 9/17, 10/15, 11/12; 1:00 - 8:00

Join an adventurous group of wine and food lovers for a monthly visit at a local (<50 miles) winery followed by a meal (maybe lunch or dinner depending on when the tasting room opens) generally around noon, but some venues do not open until 4:00. Experience usually lasts 90-120 minutes.

Participants: Min 6

The Zelienople Story. Greg Sferra & Peggy McGrogan

1-session

Trip: Thu. 10/29; 1:00 - 3:30

Historic Zelienople was founded in 1802 by German Dettmar Basse who purchased 10,000 acres of Deprecation Lands and established the town named after his oldest daughter Zelig. This trip will include trips to the Passavant and Buhl Houses. The Passavants owned the Passavant House for nearly 150 years. In 1978, the Zelienople Historical Society (ZHS) purchased and restored the facility which is now listed on the Pennsylvania Register and National Register of Historic Places. The Buhl House was established by the Buhl family who became leaders in politics, business and philanthropy. The ten rooms in the house contain a museum displaying portraits and artifacts of the Buhl family and exhibits of the businesses and activities of early Zelienople town days. Free parking is available on Main St. and some side streets including a free lot at the corner of Main & Spring Streets and at the Walgreens.

Fee: \$5.00 payable that day in cash, or check made out to ZHS.

Participants: Min 5, Max 20

Zoo. Exploring the Pittsburgh Zoo. Linda Winkler

1-session

Trip: Thu. 10/17; 9:00 - 3:30

The Pittsburgh Zoo is both a Zoo and Aquarium. It contains animals from all seven continents including the ever-popular elephants, lions, giraffes, gorillas and much more. Signs provide information on many species of animals. It is situated in Highland Park where the zoo pathways wind up and around green spaces. Since it is large and on a hillside, this trip will require a fair amount of walking. There is a discount of \$1 if 15 participants or more.

Fees: \$24.00

Participants: Min 6, Max 20

INSTRUCTOR & FACILITATOR BIOS

Cynthia Andes

Cindy lives in Titusville, Pennsylvania, and retired from the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville as an Assistant Professor of Humanities and English. Among the courses she taught were "Words & Images," "Women & Literature," and later during the spring term, "Art & Architecture in Germany & the Czech Republic." Cindy has been a traditional watercolor painter for over 50 years, and in more recent years, a mixed media artist in many mediums. She grew up spending summers at the Jersey shore, where she continues to connect with the community.

Phillip Atteberry

Phil has taught English and popular music for over thirty years at PITT and the Chautauqua Institute. He has a Ph.D. from Washington University. His passion for music and show business was passed down to him from his grandparents and great-grandparents who were singers and Vaudevillians.

Sue Barkley

Sue is a lifelong resident of the Slippery Rock area. Most of her work life has been within SR Boro.

Thomas Baumgardner, PE

Tom received his Bachelor of Science degree from Grove City College in mechanical engineering. He is a registered Professional Engineer (PE) who is now retired after working at Sturgeon Engineering, Renick Bros, Pascoe Engineering and Eckles Architecture. He has driven rock claiming (RC) cars for about 12 years, he also sailed RC sail boats, and fly drones, and is a licensed ham radio operator.

Septimus Bean

PennOhio Clay Guild is a working clay studio where guests can step behind the scenes to see a wide range of ceramic artists in action. Our experienced members produce a wide range of professional-quality work, from functional pottery to sculptural pieces, showcasing advanced skills in forming, glazing, and firing.

Cliff Brown

Cliff is a retired history teacher who has taught in the US, Canada and Papua New Guinea. He works part-time in theater production at Grove City College. He has published books, educational posters, games, and coins and stamp albums related to Newfoundland.

Linda Burns

Linda has a PhD in Sociology from the University of Pittsburgh and is a retired professor of sociology at Carlow University. Her areas of specialty included inequality, the family, gender and juvenile justice.

Tom Call

Tom has a master's degree in history from Notre Dame of Maryland University. He and his wife, Verna, have been to Antarctica. Tom has always been fascinated by maritime voyages, sea explorations, and shipwrecks.

Verna Call

Verna is a retired ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. She has a doctorate in religious ministry from Lancaster Theological Seminary. She is an avid reader of European and religious history. She is also an avid photographer and traveler, having toured almost 50 countries on all 7 continents. Verna has created photo album diaries and shares her trip experiences with organizations throughout this area.

James Carnes

James holds a BA in History and an MS in Political Science from Edinboro College. He taught high school history for 35 years and was an adjunct professor at Grove City College for 16 years. James has been presenting History programs for the past 15 years.

Kerry Cassidy

Kerry has been in the health insurance industry for over 45 years (!) and part of the Slippery Rock community for as long. Her business, Cassidy Insurance Group, a division of Charles Leach is an active part of the business community and now offers a full line of personal and business insurance. Kerry lives in Slippery Rock, PA, and loves small town life and the warm interpersonal relationships that are the cornerstone of community.

Steve Cicero

Steve is a former history instructor in Butler Area School District. He is active with a number of historical organizations in Western PA as a part-time teacher or volunteer, as well as with several retired educator groups. In addition, he is always looking for ways to promote local history and historical sites through presentations and tours.

Ruth Cole

With her bachelor's and master's degrees from the College of Wooster plus three years of graduate work, Ruth is a Shakespearean from master's thesis through publishing through years of teaching the Bard, including a high school senior elective for twenty-five years. She taught and lectured at Chautauqua, New York; Road Scholars; and ILR in Slippery Rock.

Cathryn Crego

Cathryn is a retired high school science teacher. She experienced many years of eating bad gluten-free baked goods and found herself challenged by Stan Maleki to pursue the art of gluten-free baking with the Heritage Grist Mill Bakers at McConnells Mill. Besides baking, Cathryn enjoys biking and kayaking.

James Daley

Jim has a BS in Environmental Resource Management from Penn State, served on the PA Game Commission Board of Commissioners, and has assisted Tamarack Wildlife Center for the past ten years.

Matthew D'Eramo

Matt is a Business Development Manager for Collette (Collette Vacations, Travel and Tour Services).

Brat DeRubeis McGinnis

Barrett is a sophomore student at SRU with a Strategic Communications Major, Spanish Major, and an English Literature Minor. He has been involved with nonprofit work for about 15 years. He currently works with the Rotary to supply mobility equipment to 34 different countries.

Dale Doran

Dale worked in her hometown of Philadelphia for private industry, then as a civil servant for ATF and the U.S. Air Force before moving to complete her degree at SRU. This was followed by 39 years teaching students with autism, learning, and behavior challenges.

Laura Faessel

Laura, manager of Penn Forest Natural Burial Park, holds a bachelor's degree in environmental studies from Slippery Rock University, where she studied burial practices across five cultures, sparking her passion for green burial and caring for the dead. She has embraced all that running a green cemetery has to offer.

Garry Fleeger

Retired glacial and groundwater geologist for the Pennsylvania Geological Survey for 22 years. He previously worked in PA DER/DEP oil and gas and mining programs, and Colorado Department of Health. In the private industry, he worked in environmental and oil and gas consulting.

Kathy Flood

Kathy retired after 30 years of practice as a Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation physician, primarily at the Veterans Health Administration. She now fills her time with volunteer work at the BC3 Literacy Program as a GED tutor, and some travel.

Don German

Don grew up in Smithton, PA. He graduated from Washington & Jefferson College with a bachelor's degree in industrial chemistry - while wrestling all 4 years, and a master's degree in business from Duquesne University. He has over 35 years of Operations & Maintenance experience with U. S. Steel, where he served as the Plant Manager of the Irvin/Fairless U. S. Steel Mon Valley Works since 2018 until retiring in March of 2026. While working there and watching the eagle's nest, he became an enthusiastic eagle advocate.

Howard Glass

After serving four years as a mechanic in the Air Force, Howard spent most of his life as a trucker and began writing to fill his spare time on the road. Success with short stories in a trade publication encouraged him to write more. He has written in five national publications and enjoyed a short stint as a columnist for The Herald. He has penned two novels and co-written an account of surviving Pol Pot's Killing Fields of Cambodia.

John Golden

Dr. Golden retired from Slippery Rock University where he taught law and finance and served as the university's Entrepreneur-in-Residence. He was the Managing Director of the Sustainable Enterprise Accelerator (SEA) at Slippery Rock, which assists new start-ups and existing businesses with sustainable growth opportunities. Dr. Golden serves on several boards of directors, profit and non-profit. He is the owner of Golden Intergroup Inc. a

private sustainable business consulting firm. He also practices law in the USA and internationally, specializing in commercial law.

Mark Graham

Dr. Graham is the Chairperson of the History Department at Grove City College where he specializes in Medieval and Ancient History. Additionally, he has served as an affiliated faculty member with the Centro di Conservazione Archeologica Roma and has worked on several archeological projects in Sardinian, Corinth, Rome, and Carthage. Mark's research ranges broadly; he has published on Ancient Empires, Roman frontiers, Roman media, Byzantine marble, 18th century Jansenist universal historian Charles Rollin, and further afield, Charles Darwin's view of foreign missionaries.

Julie Hagan – confirm Cassidy

After 16 years in the physical therapy field, Julie joined Charles Leach in 2020. For 6 years she has been helping her neighbors, friends and clients unravel their post Medicare benefit options. And now, with Cassidy Insurance joining Charles Leach, she brings that expertise to Slippery Rock.

Lisa Henricks

After high school Lisa studied with a local artist for 4 years and different other local instructors. Using these skills, she taught art to a private school K-12th grade students and took them to regional and state competitions. Also, she found opportunities to teach for many different non-profit groups and private companies. Her goal is to make art fun as well as instructive, taking away the apprehension that some find when looking at a blank piece of paper.

Carol Holland

Carol retired after 21 years from SRU as the Director of the Student Counseling Center. She is a licensed psychologist, certified yoga instructor, and certified meditation teacher. Retirement provides her with more time to be the lifelong learner she has always been and an avid traveler.

Michael Holmstrup

Dr. Holmstrup was trained at East Stroudsburg University and Syracuse University. Since coming to Slippery Rock in 2012, he has helped to establish successful research lines in biomechanics and physiology. He is passionate about using resistance training to enhance health, performance, and longevity across multiple communities.

Derek Hought

Derek is the leader of the Western Pennsylvania Chapter of Canine Companions, a national non-profit provider of highly skilled service dogs. He has been involved for the past ten years, during which time together with his wife have raised five puppies, each from eight weeks to seventeen months.

Lynn Hrabovsky

Lynn is an avid mahjong player with years of experience playing at the club level. Lynn is excited to mentor our members and help them learn the skills and strategies that make playing mahjong so rewarding.

Andy Johnson

Andy has a BA in Philosophy and English, a master's in counseling psychology, and graduate work in World Religions. He misses teaching Intro to Philosophy and Ethics at BC3, enjoys publishing his poetry, and is Executive Director of 'Spoken Word Projects.' Andy is currently finishing his third children's book and continues to work on publishing his poetry while helping others to do the same.

Larry Klemens

An endurance athlete for 40+ years, at the age of 60 Larry started doing triathlons and has participated in a number of sprint triathlons since then. His experience includes racing 5k through marathon distances, as well as cycling time trials and open races. He also enjoys playing golf.

Robert Kochems

Bob is the retired DA of Mercer County with 38 years' experience in the criminal justice system as a prosecutor and defense attorney. He also has 30 years' experience doing general 'people' law (family, elder, estate, and real estate). Bob's passion is seeking ways to improve the justice system for the average person.

Janet Leise

Janet completed her BS and MEd from SRU. She taught students with special needs in Pennsylvania and Ohio. She retired after 33 years of teaching in 2017. Janet loves to travel and has visited 6 continents and many islands. She enjoys photography, dance, and reading. She plays several instruments, including flute, guitar, autoharp, and percussion. She volunteers at her church and Community Care Connections, an agency which helps people who have special needs. Janet is a certified Drum Circle Facilitator.

Ruth Leo

Ruth is a professor emerita at SRU where she taught in the Department of Nursing for 24 years. Ruth has worked as a registered nurse, a pediatric nurse practitioner, nursing faculty member, and parish nurse. She enjoys family activities, travel, health-care-related community service, serving as a deacon at church, and learning new things.

Jack Livingston

Dr. Livingston is an Associate Professor in SRU's Geography, Geology, and Environmental Science department. He has research interests in Biogeography, Soils, Caribbean Area and Africa and completed Ph.D. from the University of Kansas in 2001.

Douglas Lockawich

Dr. Lockawich completed both his undergraduate and dental school education at the University of Pittsburgh. He served in the US Army on active duty and in the Reserves. His dental practice of 45 years was in Ellwood City. He is a Fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry and maintains active membership in Dental Associations. He presently is employed by 360 HealthCare Dentistry. He enjoys outdoor activities.

Bill May

Bill is a retired teacher from Lakeview SD. He is the founder of the Butler County Civil War Roundtable and is an avid historian of the Civil War and local history topics. Bill is a speaker and tour guide of the popular 'Butler Ghost Walks' and 'Historic Mansions of Butler' walking tours.

Megan McDowell

Megan is the Environmental Education Specialist at Maurice K. Goddard State Park. This is her seventh season working for DCNR State parks. Right after graduating from SRU with a degree in environmental science, she started out as a Ranger 1 at Pymatuning State Park for two seasons and then worked three seasons at Moraine and McConnells Mill State Parks as an Environmental Interpretive Technician.

Jared McGary

Jared is the Environmental Educator at Pymatuning State Park. This is his 14th season as an Environmental Educator, and he loves doing what he does. He graduated from Slippery Rock with a Park and Recreation degree in 2010.

Jessie McMenamin

Jessie served as ILR Curriculum Committee chair for three years and has been an active member of the ILR. A retired teacher and guidance counselor, she has also taught ILR classes, including: 'Women's Roles in the Civil War,' 'Tips for Economic Travel,' 'One-Room Schools of the Slippery Rock Area,' 'Origami,' and 'Apollo 11.'

Julia Meredith

Julia has nearly ten years' experience in capturing injured birds, beginning when she lived in Chicago. After relocating to her hometown of Pittsburgh in 2018 and retiring fully in 2023, she has continued to pursue her passion: helping wildlife survive its encounters with humans and our built environment. She began volunteering with Wildlife in Need in July 2025 and received her Wildlife Capture & Transport permit from the Pennsylvania Game Commission in March 2026.

Vern Miller

Vern is an Assistant Professor of Music Therapy who recently completed doctoral work at Temple University. Clinical experience includes work in mental health settings and with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Krishna Mukherjee

Krishna teaches astronomy and physics at SRU. She did her Ph.D. on astrophysics at Pitt. Her current research interest lies in the formation of exoplanets and gravitational lensing.

Benjamin Robertson

Ben has a PhD, was co-owner of a gallery and picture frame shop in Pittsburgh for over 35 years. The gallery specialized in original works of art from many nations including Japan, Mexico, Russia, the UK and China. The art included woodblock prints, etching, mezzotints, serigraphs, oils and watercolors. Together with Don Fink, Ben is co-owner of the Blackwood estate - an art venue and host of art lovers. Also, he is the CEO of Blackwood

Arts - a charitable nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching the lives of young and adult people through music and visual arts.

Jeff Roth

Dr. Roth holds a Ph.D. in criminology and is an associate professor of criminology at SRU. His past research projects have included interviewing burglars about their target choices and surveying residents about their home security.

Meg Salizzoni

Meg is a 2024 Slippery Rock University graduate with a degree in Creative Writing and a minor in Theatre. A fan of all things creative, she has been submerged in the arts for most of her life: college was just the culmination. During her college years, she spent a lot of time working at the Writing Center as a consultant and editing biographies for the literary magazine SLAB. An avid writer and self-proclaimed book reader extraordinaire, Meg works alongside ILR instructor Dorie Schleiden to co-facilitate the Writing Workshop.

Dorie Schleiden

Dorie is a 1974 graduate of Slippery Rock University. She taught, worked, and raised a family in the South Hills and Evans City before relocating to this area in 2007. Her retirement passion is writing. She has been a correspondent for The Newsweekly and The Butler County News. Her essay "Seeing in the Dark" appears in the 2022 edition of Shoofly Literary Magazine. She has recently direct published her first novel, "Galleries", and a collection of children's stories, "Grownups Love Stories Too," through Amazon Books.

Sherri Schleiter

Sherri worked in Social Services in Fairbanks, Alaska. With the University of Alaska earned an MA in Northern Studies and Visual Art, MA in Special Education and a BA in Political Science, and a BA in Journalism. Earned an MA in Library Science and Technology with Clarion University, PA. Worked for U.S. Peace Corps, Zaire Africa in Aquaculture. She enjoys photography (especially black and white fine arts) and travelling.

Greg Sferra

Greg received both his Masters and Bachelor of Science degrees from Slippery Rock University (SRU) and later served as SRU's first Campus Recreation Director, overseeing the construction and opening of the Aebersold Student Recreation Center. He currently serves the Institute for Learning in Retirement as a very active member of the curriculum committee.

Polly Shaw

Polly is retired from the Seneca Valley School District. A local state park volunteer for more than 25 years, Polly is the author of "Moraine State Park" and is currently writing "McConnells Mill State Park" for Arcadia Publishing. She has presented many programs on local topics of historical interest.

Rob Snyder

Dr. Snyder is a tenured SRU Elementary Education/Early Childhood faculty member who is a seasonal interpretive ranger.

Emma Sprowls

Emma Sprowls is a native of Washington County, Pennsylvania. She has a bachelor's degree in environmental science from Juniata College. She is an Environmental Education Specialist at Moraine and McConnells Mill State Parks. In the off season, she picks up the role of assistant swim coach.

Sam Thangiah

Dr. Thangiah is the chair of the Computing and Security department at SRU and the director of the Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Lab. His Ph.D. is in computer science specializing in application of Artificial Intelligence to Operations Research problems. He has been teaching computer science and artificial intelligence at SRU for more than 35 years. He received a National Science Foundation Grant to set up an Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Laboratory at SRU in 1993. His research has been mainly in the development of intelligent algorithms for solving complex routing problems in logistics.

Antonia Thomas

Antonia's career is varied: writer, editor and publisher for newspapers, magazines and books; ad agency creative director; product development professional; public relations specialist for theater and higher education; grants writer; overseas and higher education teaching, including aboard US Navy ships at sea. She has a BA in art history and studio art from Baldwin-Wallace University and an MA in English from Slippery Rock University.

Rich Thornhill

Rich worked for the USPS for 40 years before retiring. He enjoys biking, kayaking, and hiking, and spending time at his cabin in the National Forest. He is active in the ILR, taking classes and formerly served as vice president. Rich also leads trips for the Butler Outdoor Club.

Robert Watson

Dr. Watson is SRU's Vice-President for Student Affairs. He once lived in Scotland and has returned often for visits. A Slippery Rock native and SRU alumnus, he knows the history of the town and the university.

Rachael Westover

Rachael is Client Services Executive at Cassidy Insurance Group, a division of Charles Leach. She joined the Charles Leach agency in 2023 and specializes in health insurance through Pennie, the Pennsylvania insurance marketplace. She enjoys getting to know her clients personally and helping them find plans to meet their own unique needs. With the consolidation of Cassidy Insurance Group as a division of Charles Leach, Rachael now has a whole new group of neighbors!

Linda Winkler

Anthropologist Linda Winkler has a lifelong interest in wildlife conservation and birds including years in tropical countries studying monkeys and other wildlife. She is keenly interested in projects restoring wild populations of animals facing conservation threats. In the USA, her interest has included trips to observe whooping cranes and learn about their ongoing conservation.

Thank you for sharing your interests, names of instructors, and suggestions for improving the ILR!

Keep sending us suggestions for new topics, destinations, instructors and facilitators:

- **Fill out the surveys on the Class/Trip Sign-in Form**
- **Email to: info@ilretirement.org**
- **Visit the ILR website: www.ilretirement.org of Slippery Rock, PA**
- **Find us on Facebook**
- **Text at: (724) 636 -1145**

Our instructors and facilitators are volunteers from all walks of life.

You too can share knowledge and/or skills!

Thank you to our members and volunteers!

Thank you to our donors who keep alive opportunities of learning and connecting with others!

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The Birdwatchers Store, Jody Roberts

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2001 – 2026

ILR of Slippery Rock

25 Years Anniversary

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