

B.I.L.L. BOARD

◆ *Newsletter of the Berkshire Institute For Lifetime Learning* ◆
Fall, 1995 • VOLUME 1 • NUMBER 4

President's Message

Another milestone

As we get set for our second semester, it might be a good time to take inventory. There are now 375 B.I.L.L. Members. We can look back on a successful convocation with an exciting keynote by Joe Thompson of Mass MOCA, and we can look forward to 11 classes this semester. Plans are in the works to create special programs and events following your wishes on the registration forms and questionnaires.

Many of you are signing up for a full day of classes. We will have B.I.L.L. tables in the BCC cafeteria as a place to eat and socialize with other B.I.L.L. Members.

Registration ended August 12. If you missed that date, you will be able to register on a space available basis in the cafeteria on the day that class begins. Questions will be answered by leaving a message on our BCC phone line; (413) 499-4660 Ext. 642. This number will also bring a response from a committee head if you want to volunteer and have not been contacted.

Tom Easton

Great Trials in History

Roster of speakers exude excellence!!

Six great historical trials which have had a significant effect on human thought and behavior will be the subject of one of the eleven courses to be given in September and October by B.I.L.L.

The trials will include the trial of Socrates, to be taught by **Allan White**, professor of philosophy at Williams College; the trial of Jesus, taught by **Norman Peterson**, professor of religion at Williams; the Scopes trial, presented by **Vincent Barnett**, professor of political science at Williams, the Nuremberg trials, taught by **Leonard Cohen**, a leading criminal defense attorney of the firm of Cain, Hibbard, Myers & Cook; *Brown v. Board of Education*, presented by **Albert Vorspan**, V.P. Emeritus of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and director emeritus of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism; and the McCarthy Hearings, presented by **Robert Chandler**, former senior v.p. of CBS News.

Moderator and organizer of the series is **Rabbi Jack Stern**, Rabbi Emeritus of the Westchester Reform Temple and past president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, who performed the same functions for B.I.L.L.'s popular "Who Are Our Leaders?" series last spring.

The Great Trials series will be held Tuesdays at 11 a.m. at Berkshire Community College's Little Theater, starting September 12.

B.I.L.L. Revved Up For Fall ! ! !

Suddenly, we have a past.

A successful Spring '95 Session offering eight courses has given us a chance to reflect on what we did right and what could be done better; what subjects have not yet been explored; what kind of courses our members want. And now the Fall '95 Session is ready to go with eleven courses. Congratulations to Sue Phillips and her committee for such a fine start.

This Fall, Clara Park - our own Virgil - will lead us into the world of Dante. Irma Gottesfeld will teach us how to achieve peace in our generations. Never had time to read Melville? Take the time now, in the company of Paul Stein.

All summer long you've seen plays of varying merit; now it's time for the masters: Chekhov, Ibsen, et al, with Hal Cantor as your guide. And there are seven more offerings, all but "Cosmos" are open for registration.

Your Committee, meanwhile, is exploring and developing intriguing ideas for courses to be given in the Spring and Fall of 1996; such as genetics, finance, the biology of aging, presidential politics, music, poetry, local history, ecology, law, and much more. Ideas for courses are always welcome: call any member of the Committee. Let us know if you would like to lead a course in your own area of expertise; academic credentials are unnecessary but enthusiasm is essential.

See you in class.

Ilse Browner

From the Curriculum Committee

Spotlight on B.I.L.L. Volunteers

Elliot B. Lowell

Elliot B. Lowell, who practices law in both New York and Massachusetts, wrote B.I.L.L.'s bylaws on a volunteer basis earlier this year. Elliot and his wife, Julie (who handles B.I.L.L. mailings) came to the Berkshires nine years ago and operate Bread & Roses, a bed and breakfast in North Egremont. In addition to practicing general law and alternate conflict resolution, Elliot is an expert on jazz and the swing era and on World War II.

Ellen Brodbar - Chairwoman / Facilitator

Ellen Brodbar has lived in the Berkshires for the past seven years following her retirement from teaching math in the Flushing, New York school system. Ellen also tutored Math and English for SAT's.

Having reared four children she directed her talents and interest to volunteering for the Norman Rockwell Museum and working at Tanglewood.

B.I.L.L. is delighted to have her organizational skills and participation in its program.

Membership

Growing, Growing, Growing!!!

Enrollment for the Fall courses has soared to over 175 registrations, with additional applications arriving daily through the mail. An all time record will be achieved on opening day, Tuesday, September 12 with late enrollments.

The diversity of the courses as well as the outstanding lecturers has been well received with these high numbers. B.I.L.L. is most fortunate to have such a wealth of human resources to present this fall program, as well as a stimulating 1996.

Random Notes . . .

. . . If you do not have a 1995 - 1996 B.I.L.L. membership card or a B.I.L.L. parking sign please pick one up at the hospitality table located in the school cafeteria the first week of classes.

. . . Also regarding parking - the handicapped areas of the parking lots require a special license plate or tag. If you do not have one of these and feel it necessary to be closer to classrooms obtain a Doctors note and take it to BCC's nurses office located on the 2nd floor near the elevator to obtain the required tag.

. . . Do you leave the Berkshires during the winter months? If so, please make sure B.I.L.L. has a record of your winter address. Mail it to B.I.L.L. c/o BCC, 1350 West Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201-5786.

. . . Forgot to register for a class? During the first week of classes, late registrations will be accepted on a space available basis. Check in at the Hospitality table which will be located in BCC cafeteria - ground floor.

. . . Reminder - Among the perks B.I.L.L. members receive is the ability to obtain course texts at a discount at the following: Either/or Bookstore, Pittsfield; Book Loft, Great Barrington; the Bookstore, Lenox; and Water Street Books in Williamstown.

. . . Call to Action - a great way for each of us to share special interests and knowledge with others is to lead a course at the Institute. Call Ilse Browner, Curriculum Committee Chairperson, at 637-1624 to discuss the possibility. We know there is a vast resource among B.I.L.L. members just waiting to be tapped.

. . . Looking forward to seeing everyone once sessions begin and also to sharing the lunch hour with fellow B.I.L.L. members. Look for the tables in the cafeteria which will be reserved for B.I.L.L.

Special Events Committee

The Special Events Committee is planning a trip to Deerfield, Monday October 16. The trip includes a guided tour to the Historic Deerfield Homes and museum. Lunch will be at the historic Deerfield Inn. See Insert.

In December we will offer a trip to Vassar and its museum. We are also planning trips to the Kennedy Library in Boston and the Culinary Institute in New York. Other trips are being planned too. We hope to have a New Year's Day Brunch for all of our members. Watch for announcements!

Special Interest Groups

Larry Phillips and Ron Gilbert will coordinate this program starting with a Bridge Club. This will then become a self-governing group who may use our newsletter to make announcements, but otherwise will make decisions as to time, place and type of bridge sessions to be given among themselves. A great way to play and learn bridge and meet fellow B.I.L.L.ers on a social level.

Anyone interested in a Book Club? Contact Ron or Larry.

B.I.L.L. Council 1995 - 1996

President: Tom Easton
Vice President: Len Stolzberg
Vice president: Sue Phillips
Treasurer: Dr. Norman Avnet
Secretary: Judith Easton

Committee Chairpersons
Finance: Walter Leon
Membership: Philip Knowles
Curriculum: Ilse Browner
Special Events: Chet Soling
Communications: Ann Dulye

At Large

David Hoadley
George Harte
Ron Gilbert
Marie Feder
Harlan Williams

Any member wishing to participate in the various committees please contact the chairman through BCC B.I.L.L. office at 499-4660 extension 642.

B.I.L.L.
Berkshire Community College
1350 West Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201-5786
(413) 499-4660, Ext. 642



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“ . . . Education is a lifetime activity.”

B.I.L.L. BOARD

◆ *FALL FOLIAGE TRIP* ◆

For B.I.L.L. Members and their guests

Monday, October 16, 1995, DEERFIELD VILLAGE

ALL INCLUSIVE FEE: \$30 MEMBERS, \$35 GUESTS

- ★ VISIT THE STREET
- ★ Enjoy a guided tour.
- ★ Savor a delicious lunch at the historic Deerfield Inn.
- ★ Depart B.C.C. at 8:15 a.m. on a comfortable bus.

To reserve your space on the bus, fill in the information below and return with
your check made out to B.I.L.L. by **September 30th.** to:

Marilyn Flaum, Box 329, Becket, MA 01223



Name: _____

Telephone No. _____

Guest: _____

Telephone No. _____

Entrees:

- 1) Broiled Fillet of Sole served with Lemon Herb Butter.
- 2) Breast of Chicken marinated in Teriyaki sauce.
- 3) Cheese filled ravioli.
- 4) Rib-eye steak with mushroom Bordelaise

Desserts:

- 1) Freshly-baked apple pie a la mode.
- 2) Chocolate layer cake.