

LiR - 2019 Annual Meeting



Quinebaug Valley Community College

Committee Members

Executive Council Members:

Joan Buell, President, Mary Saad, Vice-President, Woody Durst, Treasurer, Lenore Gudmundson, Past-President, Richard Anger, Bill Brower, Lois Brower, Mary Davis, Dotti Durst, Dorothy Fazzina, Lee Felpel, Mabel Green, Jim Hamel, Barbara Jensen, Barbara Laliberte, Roger Pellerin, Barbara Schreier, Judy Swayze, Marilyn Thanas

Program Committee Members:

Barbara Laliberte, Chairperson, Bill Brower, Jean Cass, Pat David, Clare Despathy, Dotti Durst, Woody Durst, Mary Saad, Barbara Schreier, Marilyn Thanas

Refreshment Committee Members:

Judy Swayze, Chairperson, Barbara Laliberte

Membership & Promotion Members:

Lee Felpel, Co-Chair, Jim Hamel, Co-Chair, Joan Buell, Dotti Durst, Dorothy Fazzina, Mabel Green, Roger Pellerin

Scholarship Liaison:

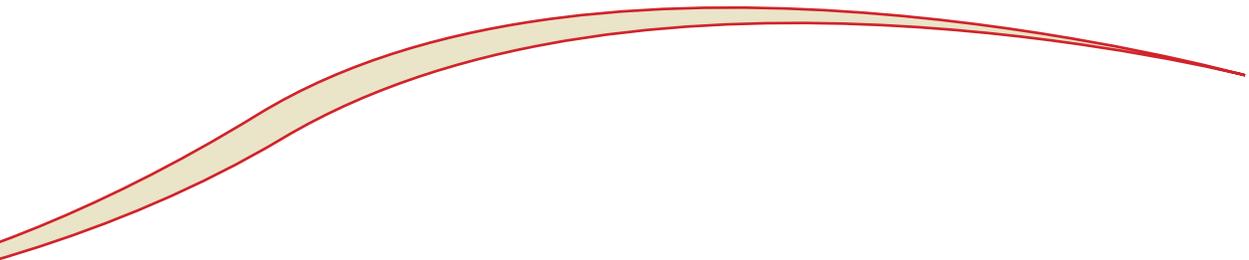
Bill Brower

Finance Committee Members:

Woody Durst, Chair, Bill Brower, Lenore Gudmundson, Roger Pellerin

IT Liaison:

Richard Anger



President's/Vice-President Report

We are nearing the end of our special 25th Anniversary Year in LiR. We have had special courses, extra courses, free membership to some, and lots of fun celebrating the occasion. However, the culminating event is yet to come! At the Annual Meeting, all members will learn how to get their free priority tickets to the U.S. Coast Guard Band Concert, to be held on June 29th. This is our gift to you, in cooperation with the QVCC Foundation and Woodstock Academy. We hope you plan to attend, with your family and friends. We have been planning this since last summer, under the leadership of Dotti Durst, and are excited to see it come to pass.

We finished this fiscal year with a total membership of 419 – 53 more than last year. The Executive Council and the Membership and Promotion Committee work hard to retain members, and attract new ones. This year we also did something about members who have become inactive for various reasons. As you may realize, in the past, if you failed to register for a semester you were automatically dropped off the mailing list, as the mailing list was current members only. Therefore, you did not get the course catalog for the following semester. Krissy Larrow, Woody and Dotti Durst, Richard Anger, and others, sat down with three years of membership lists to identify those who had become inactive. It seemed that we had lost 38 members from one year to the next. However, after carefully cross-checking names, we found we had lost 136 members while gaining 98 new ones! A hard-working group got together to do a mailing to 226 inactive members. As a result, 21 former members signed up this spring – a result well worth the effort. This is just one example of how our Executive Council functions. One more statistic for you... the average number of courses taken per person this year was 4.8, an increase over last year. We welcomed Mary Saad as our new Vice President this year, and you will have the opportunity to vote her in as President for next year. We also have been working well with a new Treasurer – Woody Durst. He also serves as chair of the Finance Committee. We made it through the year without a secretary, but are glad to present you with a nominee for that position for the coming year.

The Program Committee, under Barbara Laliberte's leadership, presented us with excellent courses and programs throughout the year. We enjoyed more courses for our money, and more free courses, excellent speakers, and challenging topics. They also met the challenge of reducing the size of our course catalog, to meet the requirements of the marketing department. Our Winter session drew a smaller number this year, but those who attended enjoyed the movies and art videos presented. Dotti Durst has sent several informative and attractive newsletters for our enjoyment. Great refreshments for our socials and open houses were arranged for by Judy Swayze and Barbara Laliberte.

Our open houses were well attended, as we heard an excellent presentation from Jason Scapaticci in the spring. He spoke about Hartford's Renaissance of the 1950's and 60's, resulting in Constitution Plaza. In the fall, we had a surprise visit from Amelia Earhart (AKA Sheryl Faye). At our Spring Social we enjoyed David Polanski, presenting *Music Across the Decades*. Last Fall, Claudia Schmidt, from Prairie Home Companion shared her music with us.

Lee Felpel and Jim Hamel, our Membership and Promotion co-chairs, have visited senior fairs and other venues to keep the LiR name in front of people. More and more opportunities are opening up to do this. This committee also updates our promotional literature, and a tri-fold poster. They are doing a great job.

We added a simple checkbox to our registration form for people to indicate that they were interested in serving on a committee or on the Council. Ten people indicated wanting to be more involved, and we are plugging them in. Please do consider where you might be able to find a niche in this great organization. Richard Anger helped us weather a change in the QVCC IT staff. The new staff is being quite understanding of our needs, and helpful to those presenting in the auditorium.

Bill Brower, our Scholarship chairman, sent out his annual letter asking for donations toward scholarships for QVCC students, and you responded very generously. Our membership donated more than \$3,000! I am pleased to have been able to serve as president for these past three years. LiR is an organization that I am proud to be a part of, both because of its mission, and also because of the wonderful people it attracts. To be in a learning environment with interesting, active and kind people is an ideal place to be!

*Joan Buell, President
Mary Saad, Vice President*



PRESIDENT’S WELCOME: The president welcomed everyone and introduced president of QVCC Carlee Drummer to address us.

QVCC President Carlee Drummer: Even though NEASC rejected the consolidation proposal and four million dollars was returned to the community college budget, “we are not out of the woods yet.” Due to faculty vacations, NEASC will not meet again until fall. Please continue to contact your representatives to support the community colleges.

- QVCC will finish its fiscal year on June 30, \$55,000 in the black.
- The Advanced Manufacturing, started in 2012, has trained 426 students, 95% of which are employed. A new certificate is being offered this fall which is already two-thirds full, called Mechatronics Automation Technician.
- Windham High School, partnering with QVCC, is part of the early college program. Students have the opportunity to earn their high school diploma and an associates degree in four, five or six years.
- President Drummer mentioned Scholarship Night where \$135,000 was awarded to 120 students. This is the seventh year in a row that no student has graduated with federal debt. She thanked LiR for their scholarship support.
- QVCC is a Gold Military Friendly school.

“Institutions earning the Military Friendly® School designation were evaluated using both public data sources and responses from a proprietary survey. For the first time, student survey data was taken into consideration for the designation. This is the 9th consecutive year the college has received recognition as an institution that is “Better for Veterans” – those with programs and policies that lead to positive outcomes.”

- June 9th is the third annual Veteran Stand Down which includes a job fair, free hearing and eye screenings and other services for Veterans.
- This is the third year in a row that a QVCC team has taken first place in the Quadcopter Challenge. It is sponsored by NSF (National Science Foundation) and NASA.
- Phi Theta Kappa, community college honorary, selected two students to be part of the all Connecticut Academic Team.
- A new associates degree in Cybersecurity is being added.
- Continuing Education has added Safe Boating, Security Guard Training, Personal Trainer and How To Communicate With Millennials.
- Second Chance Pell Grant is an ongoing relationship between QVCC and Brooklyn Correctional Institution. One hundred students per semester have been enrolled. Many of these students will soon be released and attend QVCC.

- The Fireside Lounge will be receiving many updates. The auditorium will receive updates next year.
- In cooperation with GE (General Electric), solar panels will be installed near the amphitheater and on the roof. This will save the college \$1.2 million over the next twenty years. QVCC is a green college and will be Carbon Neutral by 2050.
- Bill Brower will be receiving the Community Merit Award at graduation.

President Buell thanked our present guests, Krissy Larrow our liaison and Nicole Marcoux-Bowen who helps Krissy. She also thanked Monique Wolanin. M'lyn Hines helps us with library resources. M'lyn updated us on the progress of the college cookbook. It will be ready this fall.

This year's LiR honoree is Bill Brower. Bill, friendly to all, has been president, head of the Scholarship Committee, on the Program Committee, community advocate, unofficial historian, source of many ideas and presenters, makes PowerPoint presentations and so much more. Thank you Bill for all you have done and still do for LiR.

LUNCH: At 12:25 we broke for a marvelous luncheon buffet served by Heather Plourde and her staff.

BUSINESS MEETING: Called to order at 1:10 PM.

- *Approval of Minutes:* The Secretary's Report of last year's meeting was accepted.
- *Treasurer's Report:* Roger read his last report and it was accepted. Included in next year's budget is \$2,000 for our 25th Anniversary celebration. He mentioned that we had less than 400 members.
- *Recognition of Committees:* The president recognized the council and committee members. The new slate of officers and members-at-large are: President: Joan Buell, Vice President: Mary Saad, Secretary: Open, Treasurer: Woody Durst, Past president: Lenore Gudmundson. Members at Large: Lois Brower, Mary Davis, Dotti Durst, Dot Fazzina, Lee Felpel, Mabel Green, Barbara Jensen, Marian Marcheseault, Roger Pellerin, Barbara Schreier, Marilyn Thanas. The slate was passed.
- *New Business:* No new business.
- *Adjournment:* The meeting was adjourned at 1:34 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Jensen, Secretary*

Program Committee

Congratulations to LiR and its members for 25 years of providing learning opportunities to adults seeking to expand their minds, enrich their lives and socialize with like-minded people in the beautiful facility provided by QVCC! May LiR continue to grow and be of service for years to come.

It's been a very successful year for the Program Committee. We've offered courses that provided valuable information in our "Need to Know" series and presented cultural experiences through opera, music and art. We focused on history (both local and worldwide) and science, and provided virtual vacations through the Travel programs. Fitness opportunities were available through the many health and wellness classes, and the beauty and value of nature was explored in many ways.

We are so fortunate to have wonderful speakers who know LiR by reputation and who often contact us to address our group. Faculty at QVCC willingly offer their knowledge and expertise. Local professionals and amateurs alike are willing to share their passions for a particular subject. The variety of topics available makes for great course offerings to our members each semester.

The committee does its best to provide something for everyone. We appreciate the support, positive comments and constructive criticism from our members. We always strive to improve our programs, and your suggestions are welcome. If you are interested in seeing how it all comes together, feel free to join us at our monthly meetings. It's a great way to become more involved and to meet fascinating people!

Barbara Laliberte, Chairperson

Refreshment Committee

Well, LiR'S 2018/19 year has come and gone with many wonderful programs. As Chairperson, it was my pleasure to arrange for the refreshments and decorations for the Open Houses, Socials and the Annual Meeting. We work very closely with Heather and Lance of the EASTCONN Catering Service to provide a variety of foods for your enjoyment and they never disappoint. It is always a delight to see so many members staying to socialize and to enjoy the "goodies."

I look forward to another exciting year of programs and fellowship.

Judith Swayze, Chairperson

Membership & Promotion Committee

The M&P committee has had another busy and productive year as we work to inform our community about our wonderful organization. LiR features great socializing, new friends, and lots to learn at a bargain price.

We hosted two interesting and well-attended Open Houses; an Amelia Earhart presentation with historical actress Sheryl Faye, and the history of the development of Hartford's Constitution Plaza with perennially favorite presenter Jason Scapatucci.

We continue to promote LiR at various community events: senior expos, WINY radio spots, and, new this year, Woodstock's "Celebrating Agriculture" day. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of LiR, and we're celebrating with some special events; an upcoming LiR sponsored Coast Guard band concert, and a free lunch at our Annual Meeting.

A special thanks to Woody Durst, who spearheaded a project to reach out to inactive members, and invite them back. That drive was very successful and brought our membership levels over 400. Our M&P committee members continue to brainstorm new ideas to keep the LiR name out there. Some exciting new ideas are in the works. If this interests you, please consider joining our committee, and have fun with us!



Lee Felpel, Chairperson

Scholarship Committee

Two years ago, our original LiR Endowed Scholarship Fund reached our goal of \$50,000. The interest on this fund, has provided two \$1,000 scholarships this year to degree program students.

Our newer LiR Endowment Fund was started five years ago to help students attending the Community and Professional Education section of the college. With the addition of over \$3,000 in donations from our November letter, this fund now stands at \$39,265. From the interest earned on this fund, \$1,000 will be awarded in grants to provide books, supplies or lab fees to certificate students.

Your amazing generosity, LiR members, is changing lives here in the Quiet Corner.

Bill Brower, Chairperson



Nominating Committee Report 2019 – 2020

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of Officers and Members-at-Large for LiR in the year 2019 – 2020

Officers

President	Mary Saad
Vice President	Barbara Schreier
Secretary	Pauline Blais
Treasurer	Woody Durst
Past President	Joan Buell

Members-at-Large

Lois Brower	Lenore Gudmundson
Mary Davis	Jim Hamel
Dottie Durst	Marilyn Thanas
Dorothy Fazzina	Mabel Green

*Submitted by The Nominating Committee:
Mabel Green, Lenore Gudmundson, Marilyn Thanas*



Financial Report

	2018 – 2019 Budget	Actual a/o 4/9/19	2019 – 2020 Proposed Budget
Operational			
Copies	1,300.00	653.00	1,300.00
Postage	900.00	613.00	1,200.00
Supplies	300.00	58.00	200.00
QVCC	6,400.00	5,858.00	6,300.00
Subtotal	8,900.00	7,182.00	9,000.00
Promotional Committee			
Ads	2,000.00	2,134.00	2,000.00
Entertainment/Open House	1,200.00	800.00	1,200.00
Subtotal	3,200.00	2,934.00	3,200.00
Refreshments Committee			
Catering	4,300.00	919.00	4,000.00
Subtotal	4,300.00	919.00	4,000.00
Program Committee			
Courses	200.00	48.00	200.00
Entertainment	1,300.00	1,000.00	1,300.00
Books & Materials	100.00	0.00	100.00
Subtotal	1,600.00	1,048.00	1,600.00
Executive Committee			
Information Tech Materials	200.00	33.00	400.00
Travel & Misc.	500.00	150.00	300.00
Scholarships	0.00	0.00	
Special Celebration	2,000.00	0.00	
Additional Member Benefits			2,000.00
Subtotal	2,700.00	183.00	2,700.00
Total Budgeted Expenses	20,700.00	12,266.00	20,500.00
Bus Trips — non-budgeted			
Trip Admission — non-budgeted			
GRAND TOTAL ALL EXPENSES	21,000.00	12,266.00	20,500.00
GRAND TOTAL ALL EXPENSES	19,600.00	12,986.00	18,600.00

Membership Fees:	\$ 8,360.00	Endowed Scholarship Balance:	\$60,217.89
Tuition:	\$11,088.00	CPL Endowment Fund:	\$44,183.99
Trip Tuition	\$ 1,935.00	Amt. in Carryover (4/22/19):	\$ 8,000.00
<i>Total Revenues:</i>	<i>\$21,383.00</i>		

Reserves for Outstanding Expenses:

Catering	\$1,950.00
Various	\$ 700.00
Entertainment	\$ 700.00
Trip Expenses	\$1,775.00
Special Celebration	\$2,000.00
Total Reserves	\$7,125.00

Revenue: \$21,383
Expenses: \$19,391
Balance: \$1,992

Marian Marchesseault

1947-2018



In the past year, we were all shocked to learn that Marian Marchesseault — a dear friend of LiR — had passed away suddenly. Even if you didn't know her by name, you certainly saw her frequently. She was a person of diminutive stature and an open friendly smile. Perhaps you met her in German class, or saw her near the front of the auditorium counting people as they came in. She spent hours in the QVCC library where she studied other languages, and researched wide ranging subjects. She was active on our Executive Council, frequently volunteering for extra assignments and was very instrumental in the production of the QVCC Cookbook. She loved acting at the Bradley Theater, and also served in other roles there. We miss her very much, and are thankful that she shared her life with us.