

IRPE NEWS

Institute for Retirees in Pursuit of Education

David Gerstein, Ida Erde and Sheila Gerstein – Editors

Volume 28 Number 2 - Summer 2010

NEW CLASSES

Memory as a Muse

Cervante's Don Quixote;
Madness and Sanity

Psychology and Social
Problems

Drawing and Painting
Humans in Their
Surroundings

Fun to Bead

America Today -
A New Reality

Creative Writing

INSTRUCTORS

Louise Jaffe

Dominick Finello

Dr. Y. Saintage
Clairjeune

Glenwood Lawrence

Nessa Langer

Walter Higgins

Janelle Barabash

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As I begin my term of office, I am grateful for the honor of leading this wonderful organization. I thank you for your support. I thank Shirley Young for passing on a stronger IRPE than the one she found.

I take office at a bitter-sweet moment. We are saddened to look back at a year in which we lost many friends and colleagues, people who made significant contributions to IRPE and to our lives, most recently David Newman. On the other hand it is also a moment of hope. We can anticipate another year of new and interesting courses, teachers, classmates, cultural and travel opportunities. Most importantly, after a long period of decline our membership is increasing, and membership is the heart of IRPE. Just as an organism survives by regenerating cells, so must an organization recruit new members.

Our mission, as a lifelong learning institute, is to foster peer learning among adults. As our new web-site says, "We do this through classes, seminars and cultural activities designed and conducted by members and volunteers in an informal, non-competitive and intellectually stimulating environment." With the continued efforts and support of the IRPE community, I am confident that the mission will continue.

One of those efforts is to increase membership. IRPE is its members. Members plan and run all program activities, teach courses, fill the seats of our classrooms, and through their dues provide the funds which make it all possible.

We need to continue to attract new members. When asked "How did you hear about IRPE?" the most frequent answer from new members is "From a friend." or "word of mouth." Therefore let me end this by urging each of you, as a member, to persuade at least one friend or acquaintance to join us. Keep IRPE going. Keep IRPE growing.

Have a good summer. We'll see you (and your friend) in class.

Gene Reiser, President

IRPE WEB SITE

We are pleased to announce that the revised and updated IRPE internet web site is now available at the address <http://irpe.brooklyn.cuny.edu/> (or search IRPE in your favorite search engine, we will be among the top several choices.

The new site has many new features including a section called **Bulletins/News** that will have course changes and emergency (weather) closings. One aim of the site is to help potential new members learn about our program.

SCHOOL CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENT DURING INCLEMENNT WEATHER

IRPE MEMBERS SHOULD LISTEN TO 1010
WINS IN THE MORNING AT 6 MINUTES
AFTER THE HOUR. OUR LISTING IS
IRPE WITHIN BROOKLYN COLLEGE

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT/PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

During January members Rona Goldwitz and Toby Sanchez attended Community Board 14's monthly meeting. They spoke for three minutes each extolling IRPE as well as distributing our literature. Because of this success we had members contact the following Community Boards: CB13 Sheila Gerstein, CB15 Gene Reiser, CB17 Hyacinth Charles and CB18 Harry Cohen.

Marilyn Segall devised a coding system for our brochure that we can track where our membership is coming from.

The committee welcomed three new members: Myra Schwartz, Eleene Schwartz and Carole Walters.

Now that spring has arrived we will be participating in the following street fairs to promote IRPE membership:

May 23rd (Sunday) The 7th Annual Lena Cymbrowitz Community Health Fair, 11am – 3pm, along Emmons Avenue.

June 8th (Tuesday) Big Band Concert, sponsored by Lew Fidler, 12pm – 3pm in Marine Park at Fillmore Avenue.

June 27th (Sunday) Midwood Development, Avenue M Mardi Gras street fair, 11am – 6pm along Avenue M.

Harry Cohen, Chairman

COMMITTEES NEED HELP

Volunteers are welcome to assist on several committees. In particular the Grants Committee wishes to supplement its current membership. Committees and their chairpersons are listed on the inside front cover of the catalog.

MEMBERS ENTERTAIN

Member/teacher Irene Brodsky and member Toby Morgenstern entertained at the B.C English Department "Open-Mike" event last semester, singing and clowning to an appreciative audience. Toby also took her act on the road to help raise funds for needy children.

TRAVEL COMMITTEE

If you haven't taken one of our trips recently, here is what you missed:

1. "Day in Chelsea". We visited the Masonic Hall, had lunch at a fine Manhattan restaurant and visited the "Center for Jewish History".
2. We had an overnight trip to Atlantic City and Cape May. There were excellent accommodations in Atlantic City. Tours were provided in both locations. The trip ended with lunch at the "Lobster House" in Cape May which is one of the finest seafood restaurants on the East Coast.
3. A day at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse which included an excellent lunch and of course the dessert room where you could sample unlimited pastries, followed by the fabulous show "The Sunshine Boys".
4. A trip to Boscobel and Cold Spring, N.Y. We took a guided tour of Boscobel House, one of the nation's leading historic house museums, and considered one of the treasures of the Hudson Valley. We then had lunch and enjoyed antiquing in nearby quaint 19th century village Cold Spring.
5. A trip to Peddler's Village which is a shopping, dining and entertainment complex. Lunch at the famous Cock'n Bull Restaurant, considered one of the best restaurants in the area. The Rodgers and Hammerstein show "The King and I" followed at the Bucks County Playhouse.

All of these trips were well received. We take into consideration the walking limitations of many of our members.

Come join us on future trips. You will be happy you did.

If you have any suggestions for trips that would be of interest to our members, please place this information in the Travel Committee mail box in the IRPE office.

Bernard Davis

CULTURAL EVENTS

As usual we had many offerings for Broadway Plays – Chicago, Mama Mia, Promises Promises, Hair, Come Fly Away, orchestra seats at special price of \$149.00 for a pair of tickets.

Many members attended the Juilliard Jazz Orchestra with the Juilliard Dance Group Concert at the Peter Jay Sharp Theater, ½ price tickets at \$10.00.

We attended “An American Celebration” Gershwin and Copland music at the Symphony Space Theater, free.

We also reminded you of many free and wonderful concerts at Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music.

Keep checking our weekly bulletin board outside Room 3160 Boylan and at SUBO for many activities for your enjoyment.

Doris Kleinman

“A PURPOSE”

I find I need a purpose –
as I go though each day
Otherwise without a plan –
in bed all day I'd stay

The TV beckons me –
the books upon the shelf
I could become a couch potato –
in spite of myself

So when the sun wakes me –
in the early morn
I go out and fetch the paper –
that's waiting on the lawn

I read the news that interests me –
keep up on current events
So that when I speak to someone new –
what I say makes sense

I then check my mail and calendar –
and decide just what to do
For being retired is really hard work –
do you see what I go through?

Shirley Young

“GALA LUNCHEON – 2010”

The culminating social event of the year for the IRPE was held at the Eden Caterers of Temple Shalom on Thursday, May 13, 2010. Our outgoing President, Shirley Young, and Treasurer, Ida Erde were honorees for the occasion. They received plaques and flowers for their many years of dedicated service to the IRPE at Brooklyn College.

Dr. Karen Gould, President of Brooklyn College took time out of her busy schedule to speak to the group. She thanked us for our valuable presence on the campus. We also heard from Dr. Leslie Jacobson, one of the founders of IRPE, and one of our instructors. Other dignitaries on the dais were Assistant Dean Lillian O'Reilly, our IRPE – Brooklyn liaison, Assemblywoman Rhoda Jacobs and Assemblyman Alan Maisel. Borough President Marty Markowitz took time out of his hectic day to present Certificates of Service to Harry Cohen, Rona Goldwitz, Gene Reiser and Shirley Young.

Our home-grown entertainers were superb; tenor baritone Vincent Sica organized the program and sang two fantastic selections. Selma Krasner and Rosemarie Violetta sang, accompanied by pianist Vladimir Klezmer from Odessa, Russia. He played two of his original melodies and Shirley Young sang for his final selection. Marty Mahler rendered several of his amusing and thoughtful parodies and poems. Our members are very talented, and we are very proud of them.

For the second year we sold raffles. Special thanks to all donors and to our members who wrapped and sold raffles, assisted with giving out place cards, checking table settings, taking photographs, etc; Harry and Phyllis Cohen, David and Sheila Gerstein, Isabella Holder, Doris and Phil Kleinman, Elaine Moss, Eleene Schwartz, Marilyn Segall, Roberta Shapiro, Sandy Zuckerman.

Our kudos to Marian Samuels who announced and distributed ten-year teaching pins to Cynthia Arenson, Irene Feidel, Charles LaCerra and Harriet Sirof. Marian also presented a twenty-year plaque to Joel Levitt.

The hall was elegant, and as usual the food was sumptuous and delicious. Thanks to Ira Polansky the chef, and Jeff Rosenbaum, manager for a job well done. The weather was ideal, and a great time was had by all.

Lee Katzman

DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF NAME IN BOLD

Michael Cohen

Bernard & Jessica Cohen

Alice Levinson

Marian & Morris Samuels

Elaine T. Moss

Noreen O'Neill

Ida Erde

Philip & Judith Fagin

Frances G. Levy

Leanora Katzman

Harriet & Sidney Sirof

Harriet Wittenberg

John & Pola Bradman

Tobby & Abraham

Morgenstern

Yong-Ja Howery

Bert Levinson

Tobby & Abraham

Morgenstern

Lee Hilsenrath

Eslin Silburn

Marilyn Segall

Lillian Alpert

Ellen & Milton Pincus

Irving Krasner

Selma Krasner

Evelyn Drayton

Edward Drayton

Lawrence Goldenberg

Harvard & Sheila Sarnoff

Goldie Serkes

Valerie B. Foti

Ethel Ratner

Greta Lipton

Ellen & Milton Pincus

Yong-Ja Howery

Lillian Alpert

Eleanor Diskin

Eleanor & David Cook

Martin Lieberman

Lynne Hoberman

Larry Davis

Bernard Davis

9/11 Memorial Fund

Bonnie Hammer

Richard Weintraub

Shirley & Max Weintraub

Philip Blatt

Norman Menkes

Dr. Hans Trefousse

Barbara Finkelstein

Carol Doubert

Steven Rubin

David & Dorothy Goldberg

Frances G. Levy

Elizabeth Chast

Marian & Morris Samuels

Charlotte Wittenberg

Elaine Goldfine

Olga E. Noel

Vincent Blazewicz

Marcia Kaminsky

Tobby & Abraham Morgenstern

Herbert Friedman

Alice Friedman

Phillip Klass

Leanora Katzman

Sol Abrams

Leanora Katzman

Bella Frutkin

Leanora Katzman

Harriet & Sidney Sirof

Lea DiStefano

David Newman

Ida Erde

Cecile Kops

Marilyn Gallo

Gail Creamer

Warren & Iris Brahms

Rona Goldwitz

Toby Sanchez

Wilma Shiffman

Robert & Phyllis Sperling

Sheldon & Estelle Keilson

Vincent Sica

Sidney & Harriet Sirof

Lea DiStefano

Lillian Alpert

Ruth Adams

Mildred Gorelick

Elaine Moss

Maurice & Harriet Wittenberg

Leanora Katzman

Phyllis & Harry Cohen

Helen M. Bell

Janet Taft

DONATIONS IN HONOR OF THE IRPE

Denise Andreu
Olga Baer
Marlene Barocas
Melvin Belsky
Carole & Moe Berman
Florence Burrus
Madeline Carroll
Hyacinth Charles
Harriette Cohen
Phyllis M. Cohen
Beverly Drucker
Ida Erde
Estelle Fleischmann
Alan & Doris Friedberg
Matthew Gabriner
David & Dorothy Goldberg

Rona Goldwitz
Marvin Grumet
Joseph & Altoon Hedaya
John & Isabella Holder
Pearl Jobson
Frank H. Joseph
Leanora Katzman
Rita Kayne
Dorothy Krieger
Lucille F. Landers
Zena & Michael Lapidus
Sandra Williams-Lewis
Francine Luft
Michael Murphy

Sally Muschel
Sylma Nelson
Anna Marie Pascale
Kalman Salpeter
Lucy Sawyer
Beatrice Scher
Beverly Schnipper
Roberta Shapiro
Anna Sherman
Wilma K. Shiffman
Vincent F. Sica
Annie Wajsfeld
Phyllis Wallis
Erwin Weiss
Judith H. Weitzman

DONATIONS IN HONOR OF NAME IN BOLD

Marian & Morris Samuels
Doris & Philip Kleinman

Gene Reiser
Eugene Goldstein

Ted Friedman
Janet Taft

Harriet Sirof
Janet Taft
Bruce Brookoff

Marty Nedell's 80th Birthday
Marian & Morris Samuels

Noreen O'Neill
Marian & Morris Samuels

Loved Ones
Joyce Provenzale

Marvin Grumet
Barbara Finkelstein

David Newman
Marian & Morris Samuels

Dorothy Schaffner
Marian & Morris Samuels

Doris Kleinman
Marian & Morris Samuels

David Gerstein
Marian & Morris Samuels

Prof. Maurice Kramer
Yong-Ja Howery

Prof. William Childers
Yong-Ja Howery

Fran Levy
Yong-Ja Howery

Dr. Rosalie Reich
Yong-Ja Howery

Kira Tal-Tilis
Yong-Ja Howery

Shirley Young
Yong-Ja Howery

Ida Erde
Sandra Zuckerman
Leanora Katzman

FRIENDS OF IRPE

Marie Alexander
Lillian Alpert
Stephen Appell
Denise Andreu
Olga Baer
Marlene Barocas
Helen Bell
Eve Blatt
Flora Bloom
Sandra Brandler
Theodore Berson
Hyacinth Charles
Leonora Chertoff
Gloria Coe
Bernard Cohen
Jessica Cohen
Harry Cohen
Phyllis Cohen
Bernard Davis
Carol Doubert
Beverly Drucker
Dorothy Duan
Charles Edelman
Ida Erde
Dennis Feinstein
Barbara Finkelstein
Carl Finkelstein
Frances Freedman
Alice Friedman
Theodore Friedman
Matthew Gabriner
Marilyn Gallo
Jay Gerber
David Gerstein

Sheila Gerstein
Miriam Goldhaber
Sanford Goldhaber
Rona Goldwitz
Lorraine Greenhouse
Marvin Grumet
Gail Herlihy
Isabella Holder
John Holder
Yong J. Howery
Sally Hunt
E. Pearl Jobson
Leanora Katzman
Rita Kayne
Cecile Kops
Marilyn Kostroff
Selma Krasner
Barbara Krigsman
Zena Lapidus
Barry Lenkowsky
Fran Levy
Greta Lipton
Francine Luft
Mary Maresco
Vincent Maresco
Mary E. McCarthy
Kenneth McGlynn
Thelma Meyer
Denis Murphy
Michael Murphy
Edith Namm
David Newman
Sheila Newman
Morton Newman

Sylvia Newman
Noreen O'Neill
Anna Pascale
Ellen Pincus
Milton Pincus
Abraham Prosky
Joyce Provenzale
Gene Reiser
Helen Reiss
Steven Rubin
Kalman Salpeter
Toby Sanchez
Harvard Sarnoff
Sheila Sarnoff
Lucy Sawyer
Marilyn Segall
Howard Seigel
Wilma Shiffman
Vincent Sica
Harriet Sirof
Sidney Sirof
Clarissa Spence
Phyllis Sperling
Robert Sperling
Shirley Teitelbaum
Edith Tuber
Shirley Turner
Alan Umlas
Lucretia Walker
Marie Walsh
Mindu Waltman
Judith Weitzman
George Wilson

Dorothy Schaffner, an original member of the IRPE and Chair of the Program Committee for many years, would love to hear from her friends in the organization. Her number is (718) 634-0435

ATTENTION ACCESS –A-RIDE USERS

When requesting a ride, please advise Access-A-Ride that your destination at SUBO is:

**2705 Campus Road
between East 27th Street and Amersfort Place**

IRPE ELECTION RESULTS

The following is a list of the newly elected members of IRPE's Executive Board:

Gene Reiser – President
Toby Sanchez – Vice President
Helen Reiss – Secretary

Stephen Appell, Harry Cohen,
Zena Lapidus, Elaine Moss,
Marilyn Segall, Susan Tischler

I want to thank the Nominating Committee for being so cooperative and helpful. They are:

Marie Alexander, Hyacinth Charles, Sandra Currence-Greenidge, David Gerstein, Isabella Holder, Doris Kleinman, Eleene Schwartz, Myra Schwartz

Good luck to the winners!
Respectfully yours, Sheila Gerstein

“HOLD BACK THE DAWN”

Tomorrow I must decide –
on so many different things
I've reached that time in life where they say
I must accept –
whatever nature brings

But I am not quite ready –
to put aside the things I like
Like climbing up the rambling hills –
or riding a bike

Although I must admit –
that I am slower than I was then
I still want to do it – every now and again

I'm not the kind to just sit –
in a rocking chair
Even though I may no longer –
be so young and fair

So please hold back the dawn –
for yet another day
Then I can have the time I want –
to just dream and play.

Shirley Young

PHILOSOPHICAL MUSINGS II

I cast no light and I have no flame
I want no glory and I need no fame;
Everyone knows me but not my name
And nobody wants to play my game.

How many angels can fit on a pin
And how many atoms are there within?
A querulous game that no one can win,
So who among us will cast the first sin?

Outside seventy, inside seventeen,
Where are you going and where have you been,
Where have you journeyed and what have you seen;
Were you aware of the words in between?

Hero or a saint, saint or a hero,
One gets a ten, the other gets zero;
Living with a hero the praise is faint
But nobody wants to live with a saint.

I love my neighbor, that is my pleasure;
The valid test of a neighbor's measure;
But if truth be told, there is more to tell
Because I also love his wife as well;

H. B. Sarnoff

ADAM WAS ADAM AND EVE

Adam was Adam and Eve,
Till Eve from his ribs did cleave.
Then Adam was Adam
And Eve was his madam.
But Eve was not adamant Eve.

Sam Lishinsky

PUZZLE CORNER

Exercise your brain to keep it in good shape. Try to solve this puzzle.

A bacteria doubles itself becoming 2 every minute. In 20 minutes they fill up a jar. How long does it take for them to fill $\frac{1}{4}$ of the jar?

If you are not sure of your answer or need help in solving this, phone Marty Mahler at 718 338-7929. (Our last issue's answer is 135 lbs.)

If you would like easy or more challenging puzzles let us know.

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