

Dear ILR member:

Thank you for your support of ILR and we hope that you will continue to be part of our programs. ILR, like many other organizations has reached a fork in the road and this message is to explain the path we have chosen to take. The pandemic has caused many changes in our lives that we could never imagine. As this message is being written:

1. ILR does not have locations where we could hold classes even if the guidelines were changed. BW and the area churches are waiting until things are clarified before promising meeting locations that we could use.
2. Luncheons cannot be held due to the rules of public assembly that have been imposed.
3. All travel programs have been suspended by the travel companies we hire.
4. Our steering committee and other ILR groups can only meet online as we cannot assemble in any single location.

This is a difficult situation for ILR, but we are resourceful seniors and this is not our first rodeo and we refuse to give up. To keep ILR viable, we are instituting the following changes as fast as possible:

1. Starting with fall 2020, all classes will be online using "Zoom" since it is fast and easy to use. Classes can then be taken no matter where members may locate for personal travel or vacation.
2. All class catalogs will be online and not printed and mailed as usual. This will save a great deal of money on mailing costs and will eliminate possible contamination caused by handling physical mail.
3. All membership renewals will be online so that members can pay with their credit card.
4. Class registration will be online as well so that members can sign up for classes with their credit card.

Why YOU are important: ILR must succeed and continue to serve seniors seeking to advance their education and these changes will allow that to take place. We are arranging to provide training for those who may need a refresher course on how to use a computer to take a class. We will encourage those who do not have a computer to find an "ILR buddy," who can share their computer for class participation. Those who

may want to purchase a computer are encouraged to look at a “Chrome book” device for approximately \$300 and use that to attend class.

We are aware that for many members this is bad news. We promise to do our best to (safely) bring back the ILR that we all love and enjoy. Let’s celebrate all that is excellent and the efforts being expended to keep it that way.

We need you to do several things:

1. Renew your membership as soon as possible. Classes cost money and we need cash to provide quality instruction. (Online membership renewal coming soon.)
2. Learn to use your computer or find an ILR buddy to share.
3. If buying a computer, consider an inexpensive “Chrome book” to keep family expenditures to a minimum.

Thanks for your understanding and support. We will continue to keep ILR alive and well despite the many uphill situations we are facing.

Bob Ross - Outgoing ILR President

Mary Kolk - Incoming ILR President