

# ILR TODAY

Volume XI Number 3 June 2021

INSTITUTE FOR LEARNING  
IN RETIREMENT



AT BALDWIN WALLACE UNIVERSITY

Institute for  
Learning in  
Retirement at  
Baldwin Wallace  
University



## PRESIDENT MARY KOLK'S MESSAGE...

Welcome Back!! On behalf of the Steering Committee (now known as the Governing Board), I would like to extend a warm, enthusiastic **WELCOME BACK** to current as well as former ILR members. We have an amazing, exciting year planned and we are raring to get started.

It's been a very long 17 months since we first had to cancel our annual Spring luncheon in March 2020. The social drought has been difficult on everyone.

I would be remiss if I didn't give a big shout out to all the people on the Governing Board, including but not limited to the Curriculum Committee, the Help Desk, the IT Committee, the Zoom Training Committee, the Financial Committee, the Coordinators who became Host Coordinators (HC's) for Zoom and to all who lead the charge and kept the ILR a viable and growing organization during the worst pandemic in 100 years.

The pandemic is in our rear view mirror. We hope it stays there and falls further and further behind as we move on down the road to new, exciting classes, travel and luncheons.

Please check out the class catalog and see the amazing selection of diverse classes once again being offered. You can find the catalog now posted on the ILR Website: <https://www.ilrbw.org/website/publish/courses/courseList.php?2>

### Welcome Back

Sincerely,  
Mary Kolk  
President, ILR



### ILR OFFICE

325 FRONT ST BEREA, OH 44017  
440-826-3188

### HELP DESK

Each question and concern is important to us. We realized the need for one central communications center for our members. The ILR Help Desk email is that central communications center. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, send an email to:

[ilrhelpdeskbwu@gmail.com](mailto:ilrhelpdeskbwu@gmail.com)

### ILR ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Institute for Learning in Retirement was held on Wednesday May 19, 2021. The meeting was conducted online using Zoom Video conferencing. You may view a recording of the annual meeting by clicking on the view annual meeting box.



[VIEW ILR ANNUAL  
MEETING](#)



## CURRICULUM

We are excited about our 42 classes being taught this Fall starting September 13<sup>th</sup> (25 classes will be taught in-house and 17 classes by Zoom). Class registration starts August 2nd and runs through August 15th. Our renewal membership commences on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Doug Imhoff**  
Curriculum Chair

## **We Want Your Involvement...**

Looking to get more involved in ILR? Volunteers are always needed and welcome to participate on various committees. What are your interests and skills? What do you enjoy working on? Please contact us at [volunteers@ilrbw.org](mailto:volunteers@ilrbw.org) and someone will help find your niche in this great organization. You will not only provide a valuable service to ILR, but will likely find some new friends!

Beverly Sadowski

## MARKETING NEWS Ginny Schneider

We're excited about the success of our newly established Group Plan. Because of last year's experience with virtual classes, we've been able to offer our Zoom classes to Senior living facilities. If you have connections at any facilities, please let the marketing team know and we'll be happy to contact them and offer our Group Plan for their Activities program. [marketing@ilrbw.org](mailto:marketing@ilrbw.org)

How many of you remember the 70's-80's Fabrege Organics shampoo commercial? In the ad, a young woman explains how wonderful this new shampoo is and then proceeds to talk about how she liked it so much that she told a friend. That friend in turn told another friend and, well, you can see how that could keep going.

Well we're challenging you to tell a friend about your ILR experience. As the marketing team works to get the word out in many ways, we are reminded that positive word-of-mouth is a sincere, credible way to promote our organization.

So if you've had a good experience, and think ILR is worth talking about, tell a friend....who will tell a friend....and so on, and so on.....

Thanks for your help.

**HAVE A SAFE AND  
HAPPY SUMMER.**

## MEMBERSHIP

Linda Faecking &  
Sue Brennan

The plan to begin our membership drive in June hit a few snags. We worked around them and are happy to report that beginning on July 1, 2021 you will be able to become a member or renew your membership online using the handy link **on our website**. Just click the **MEMBERSHIP** tab at the **top of the home page**.

Annual membership letters will go out July 1. This letter will be another source of the membership link and a link to our help desk if you run into problems.

As a courtesy to those who do not have a computer or who have tried to join online without success, we are offering **in-person help at the ILR office**. Dates and times will be in the letter. Before coming in, we ask that you first attempt to join online and use the help desk, if necessary. Checks or cash will not be accepted at these in-person sessions, only debit or credit cards.



## **FREE Cleveland History: Tourism and Things to Do Class FREE**

One of our awesome ILR presenters (Doug Imhoff) is going to give a “free” Zoom class called Cleveland History: “Tourism and Things to Do in Cleveland” to our ILR members on **Wednesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.** This class will discuss the history of our wonderful Cleveland museums, the Metroparks and our Gardens, the Zoo, Playhouse Square, the Westside Market, etc. We will also discuss our many sporting, musical, park, festival, restaurant and entertainment venues along with the wonderful tours of Cleveland that you can take! As we open up our country and our city after COVID, there are many great things that we can see and do in Cleveland, Ohio! An email and attached link will be sent to our members in July to sign up for this class. Since we can only have 295 people in the class on our Zoom platform, it will be on a “first come - first serve” basis! This course will be held via the ILR Online Classroom. To take advantage of this opportunity, **just click on the box below 10 to 15 minutes prior to 7:00 PM on Wednesday, July 28.**

**ATTEND CLASS**



## JUNE SPOTLIGHT INSTRUCTOR

### Alan Baltis

Here is a new feature for your ILR Newsletter! First up is new Member and Instructor, Alan Baltis, who was brought to ILR by Joan Tropf/Curriculum Committee.

**Alan Baltis** has worked as an info systems developer/designer/consultant for more than 30 years. Born in Chicago, schooled at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign where he received his BSCS & his MBA. He met his wife Colleen through Mensa. He and his wife currently live in Lakewood. Ask Alan to tell you about his podcast, Jeopardy performance and Guinness World Record.

1. Can you give us a brief overview of your Fall 2021 class, Comic Books: A Modern Mythology?

**ALAN:** This class will be a “greatest hits” compilation of some of my favorite, most interesting topics, covering such things as Diversity in Comic Books, Fantastic Places, Comic Book Movies, Female Archetypes & Comic Books as Art & a general history of comic books.

2. When did you realize you were a serious collector of comics?

**ALAN:**

- When I had accumulated enough that I had to keep them ordered & cataloged so I would know what I had & what I was missing;
- When I began to read them more carefully to keep them in good condition;
- When I started to actively fill in gaps in my collection by shopping via mail order & going to comic book conventions;
- When I began to make enough money that I could buy every single comic book being published;
- When I realized that some of what I had were valuable!

3. Which comic book character is your all-time favorite and why?

**ALAN:** I’m an omnivorous reader, so that’s next to impossible to answer. I like different characters for different reasons. For example, I like Daredevil because the idea of having enhanced senses is very cool. I like Thor because the intersection of “real” Norse mythology with the modern world was fascinating. I like the X-Men & the Doom Patrol because they’re outcasts.

4. What are your other hobbies?

**ALAN:** I am an avid collector, so I also have tens of thousands of hardback books, paperbacks, LPs, CDs, magazines, & puzzles. I also love hiking, traveling & exploring all over the USA & Europe. Colleen & I are also avid consumers of live theater, music, stand-up comedy, improv, & lectures. **AB**

**Interview by Paula Gustin**