# ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014

April 25, 2014



# **Annual Meeting Agenda**

The Trails • April 25, 2014

Invocation
Introduction of Guest Speaker
Guest SpeakerBess Witcosky, Director, Morton Community Center Transforming Lives-One "Step" at a Time: A Journey with Dancing Classrooms Philly
Transforming Lives-One "Step" at a Time: A Journey with Dancing Classrooms Philly
Business Meeting
200000000000000000000000000000000000000
In Memoriam
Approval of April 29, 2012 Annual Meeting Minutes Vince Green
Recognitions Recognition of Special Guests Recognition of Current Board Members Recognition of Current Chair Persons and Committees Recognition of Retiring Board Members
Committee Reports
Facilities Task Force
Board Development Committee Report
Election of New Board Members
Officer Nominating Report
Old/New Business

Photographer: Jacques Delleur

# **Bess Witcosky**

# **Director of the Morton Community Center**

Transforming Lives- One "Step" at a Time: A Journey with Dancing Classrooms Philly

Bess Witcosky is the new Director for the Morton Community Center in West Lafayette.

Her professional preparation includes receiving a BA in English Literature, with a Minor in Dance from Purdue University in 2000; and a Masters of Education in Dance from Temple University in 2003. She celebrated her 20th year as a Dance and Arts Educator in 2013.

While attending Purdue she was an active member of the Purdue Repertory Dance Company as both a choreographer and dancer. It was during her time



with this group that she began to discover her passion to work with underserved communities and participate in arts outreach projects. In 1999, she assumed the role of Co-Director for the Inner City Breathers in Indianapolis.

In 2001 she moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to attend Temple University. She received the "Emerging Dance Educator" Award in 2002. Upon receipt of her Masters, she continued to live in the Philadelphia area teaching at several local universities, most notably, University of the Arts. She has founded two dance companies over the past 10 years, one for adults and one for children. The children's company continues to thrive at the Darlington Arts Center in Garnett Valley, PA. She has performed nationally and internationally; via Edinburgh, Scotland's Common Ground Conference.

For the past 6 years, Bess has been an integral member of the Dancing Classrooms Philly organization and has been the Artistic and Education Director for 5 years. Dancing Classrooms is a non-profit organization that teaches life lessons through ballroom dance to 5th graders in the Philadelphia area. She is one of 12 Teaching Artists in the country that is certified to train educators to become Dancing Classrooms instructors.

Although dance is her creative medium of choice, community engagement and helping to build stronger and healthier communities is her passion. In her new role as Director of the Morton Center, she looks forward to supporting and growing with this already thriving organization.

# WALLA 2012-2013 Annual Membership Meeting Minutes April 19, 2013

President Russ Clark began the event by describing some of the activities of WALLA in the past year, including increase in attendance, the winter get-away, new venues for the picnic and the pizza party, and the armchair train/wine event. He thanked Nancy Hart for substituting for him at some meetings. He thanked everyone for their hard work during the year.

Nancy Hart, President-elect, welcomed those present, and Charlene Watson presented the invocation.

After the luncheon, Nancy introduced keynote speaker, Ed Eiler, retired superintendent, Lafayette School Corporation, who spoke about his experiences, centering on his work with the state legislature. He has worked tirelessly for the public schools in Indiana in opposition to the school voucher program.

# **Business Meeting:**

Russ introduced Barbara Krause who asked for a moment of silence to remember those who had passed away since the last Annual Meeting. Memorialized were: Marion Brazes, Arnold Cooper, Gwen Daniel, Carol Halsey, Wanda McCabe, Gordon Mork, Evelyn Miller, Randy Nelson, Nancy Robinson, Rosemary Sherwood, and Gordon Young.

Russ Clark asked for approval of the minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting. It was moved by Gail Beck, seconded, and passed by voice vote.

Russ introduced current and retiring board members and committee chairs, and asked for the report of the Board Development committee. Chair, Jim Moore noted that board members are eligible for 2 consecutive terms; Marilyn Green and Pat Spears are not eligible to be reelected and will be replaced by Nancy Hart and Vince Green, if elected. Robert Knill is unable to serve a second term and Alan Williams is nominated to replace him. Gail Beck, Etta Lazaros and Bob Slagel have agreed to serve second terms, and Peggy Housley, replacing Mary Jo Kane who was unable to fulfill her term, will begin her first term. Russ asked for a motion to elect the new nominees and they were elected by acclimation.

Joe Krause, Chairperson of the Officer Nominating Committee, reported as follows: President, Nancy Hart; Vice President-President Elect, Vince Green; Treasurer, Gail Beck; Secretary, Kathleen Connolly. Officers will be elected at the next official board

meeting. The Nominating Committee consisted of Russ Clark, Randy Nelson, Tom Schott, Gail Beck, Mary Gardner, Joe Krause.

# **Old/New Business:**

Russ and Nancy presented gifts to retiring board members and the retiring secretary.

Russ presented the "Mary Fuqua Memorial Volunteer of the Year" award to Gloria Huffman.

Gail gave special recognition to spouses/significant others of WALLA presidents: Polly Tyler, Kathy Senft, David Beck, Barbara Krause, DeLores Delleur, Mildred Halsema, Josette Rolley, SuzAnn Schott, Doug Hart, Kathy Clark, Marilyn Green.

Russ Clark received a special gift and was thanked for a good job as president.

Submitted by Barbara Krause, Secretary

# **Relocation Task Force Update**

For more than 20 years, WALLA has had a home at Morton Center in a unique collaboration with the West Lafayette Department of Parks & Recreation. This arrangement worked to our mutual advantage. Recent structural problems with the West Lafayette City Hall building presented the possibility that Morton Center would be rehabilitated and used as a City Hall. WALLA had to find alternative housing during this time.

In May, 2013, after a meeting with West Lafayette Mayor John Dennis, WALLA formed the Relocation Task Force (RTF), an ad hoc committee, to investigate our options. The RTF worked during the summer and fall of 2013, and again in January and February, 2014. We reviewed information on possible alternative sites. To date, fifty-five different venues were investigated by at least one member of the RTF. WALLA participants were encouraged to submit site suggestions to RTF Co-Chairs Tom Schott or Dorothy Jones. Any potential site was given our attention.

WALLA space needs fall into three or four categories. Twelve-month space is needed for storage and office. Short-term spaces are needed for classes (four-week daytime blocks, M-TH, 9:00-4:00, spring and fall), and meeting room spaces for Board and committees (occasional, scheduled). WALLA Special Events (eg., spring Pizza Party, fall Picnic) and other sponsored programs such as movie nights, forums, or trips are scheduled as need arises and do not depend on Morton Center for space; other venues can be and are being used for most of these events.

Most of the sites reviewed were ruled out. Usually the proprietor was unwilling to share its space with WALLA, or the space did not meet critical requirements (e.g., handicap accessibility, availability during WALLA program times.) For some sites, space rental was too costly.

In March, 2014, the whole RTF committee visited four venues that we considered "possible" or definitely "good." After these visits, we presented a recommendation to the WALLA Board. The Board appointed persons to proceed with negotiations for securing space for WALLA class sessions Fall, 2013 and Spring, 2014. WALLA office and storage spaces will remain at Morton Center, until further notice.

# WALLA Officers and Board Members 2013-2014

President, Vince Green Vice President, Dennis Sorge Secretary, Kathleen Connolly Treasurer, Gail Beck Past President, Russ Clark

3 Year Term expiring 2014 3 Year Term expiring 2015

Virginia Carter 2<sup>nd #</sup>

Russ Clark 2<sup>nd #</sup>

Sallie Cooke 2<sup>nd</sup>

Barbara Krause 2<sup>nd #</sup>

Russ Noble 2<sup>nd</sup>

Tom Schott 2<sup>nd #</sup>

Ann Skadberg 1<sup>st</sup>

Linda Taulman 1<sup>st</sup>

Kathleen Connolly %

Sallie Cooke 2<sup>nd</sup>

Russ Noble 2<sup>nd</sup>

Charlene Watson 2<sup>nd</sup>

Dorothy Jones

Judith Wright 2nd#

3 Year Term expiring 2016 Nominees 2 Year Term expiring 2017

Nancy Hart U Ann Skadberg  $2^{\rm nd}$ Vince Green Linda Taulman  $2^{\rm nd}$ Alan Williams Leslie Brost

Peggy Housley Marshall Deutelbaum

Gail Beck 2<sup>nd</sup> Patrick Egan
Etta Lazaros 2<sup>nd</sup> Nancy Hartman
Robert Slagel 2<sup>nd</sup> Howard Magadanz

Mary Quinn &

**Notes:** "2<sup>nd</sup>" Second Consecutive 3 Year Term

"#" Statutory Retirement after 2nd consecutive 3 Year Term

"%" Completing 2nd Term of Ed Connolly "&" Completing 1st Term of Nancy Hart

"U" Unable to complete 3 Year Term (resigned)

### Ex-officio

Mary Gardner Purdue Liaison and WALLA Coordinator
Pennie Ainsworth West Lafavette Parks and Recreation

Brenda Lorenz Morton Community Center Director and Scheduler, retired West Lafayette Public Library/WALLA Films and Friends series

Nancy Hartman West Lafayette Public Library/WALLA Web Master

Submitted: James B. Moore, Chairman Board Development Committee

# **WALLA Committee Chairs 2013-2014**

The Wabash Area Lifetime Learning Association would not be an effective organization without the contribution of its committees. The WALLA officers sincerely appreciate the time and effort contributed by the dedicated members of the committees and the committee chair/co-chairpersons.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON/CO-CHAIRPERSON

Audio-Visual Etta Lazaros Audit Tom Schott Board Development Jim Moore

Curriculum Jacques Delleur/Robert Slagel

Finance/Budget Gail Beck
Publicity Marilyn Green

Office Advisory Dixie Fry/Charlene Watson

Officer Nominating Joe Krause
Programming Joe Krause

Special Events Judith Wright/Virginia Carter

Webmaster Nancy Hartman

# WALLA Officer Nominating Committee

The Officer Nominating Committee consists of all active former WALLA Presidents. These include: Gail Beck, Joe Krause, Jack Delleur, Jim Moore, Tom Schott, and Russ Clark. Mary Gardner is an ex-officio member.

In 2013 Nancy Hart served briefly as President but then resigned for personal reasons. Vince Green took over as Acting President and then was voted in as President in the summer of 2013. Dennis Sorge was nominated and then elected to serve as Vice-President (President-elect).

The committee organized a one afternoon briefing for both officers in the summer of 2013. This proved to be useful and should be continued in future years.

Early this year Vince Green indicated that he would be willing to continue for the 2014-2015 term as did Dennis Sorge. WALLA is extremely fortunate to have two such capable and interested leaders, especially as WALLA is facing an extreme challenge in relocation of its classes, office, storage, and meeting facilities.

Submitted by Joe Krause, chairperson

# President's Annual Report 2013-2014

Neither rain nor snow, nor sleet nor dark of night shall keep WALLA from its appointed tasks. With both cold temperatures and amounts of snow nearly breaking records this past winter, WALLA continued to offer many opportunities. As we all complained about this winter, Board meetings, Committee meetings, the "Film and Friends" films, and almost all scheduled WALLA events were held. Whether planning or attending these, you should all be commended.

This last year has flown by very quickly. That is in part due to my serving as President for less than a full year. One thing that I have learned is that the year rarely ends the way it appears in the beginning. Last year's annual report referenced Nancy Hart as the incoming president. After a few months Nancy resigned and I became president. With the help and guidance of many on the Board of Directors, we have continued to move forward. Additionally, there is great leadership on the each of committees which made my task easier. The ex-officio members from Purdue University, the West Lafayette Public Library, the WL Parks and Recreation Department and its subsidiary, Morton Community Center all contributed in making this last year a success.

One of the difficult decisions that had to be made this last year regarded the cost for classes. After a careful analysis it was determined that for each semester the income from registration fees had been less than the cost of holding classes. Consequently, the semester fees were raised from \$60 to \$75. The cost of similar programs across the country was included in the analysis and it was concluded that WALIA is still a great bargain.

When this last year began, the possibility of needing to determine a temporary place to hold WALLA classes, as well as have office, storage and meeting space appeared to be in the distant future. As the year ends, the changes are much closer. Your Board has stayed on top of this development through a dedicated Task Force. This has been a top priority. The Relocation Task Force will address the current status at the Annual Meeting.

I would like to direct your attention to the committee and other reports that are included. It is through these reports that you will obtain a view of the many activities that occurred in the last twelve months. The reports may provide incentive to take advantage of activities you missed this last year, or even encourage you to become part of a committee to plan upcoming events you may want to keep this report handy over the upcoming year. It has a lot of valuable information, including Board Members, Officers, and Committee Chairs with contact information.

A casual survey that I conducted over the last year provided me information regarding whether there was one aspect of WALLA that was of key importance. Education (classes), trips, social events, relationship building, coffee and bagels, etc. were some of the alternatives I asked members. The overwhelming response that I received was that it was really all of these.

The response to this survey will provide a good roadmap for the future. Whether

we continue to have Morton as our primary location, or some other place, having a well-rounded program will continue. There are already plans for several exciting and interesting events as we head into the next fiscal year.

Below you will see some of the specific individuals who led to this last year's success:

### **Purdue Liaison**

Mary Gardner has been an invaluable resource for WALLA since the beginning. She is most visible during classes. With Mary's connection at Purdue, she also helps to provide many resources that might not otherwise be available to WALLA. Beyond the classes, Mary spends untold hours involved in many of the other functions of WALLA. If a list were made of all of the activities Mary participates in, there would not be enough space for other important individuals. Thanks for all of your guidance this last year, Mary.

# **WL Public Library**

With Nick Schenkel, Elizabeth Cuddy, and others, we have continued to have a very strong relationship at the WLPL. Nancy Hartman has just retired from the library and plans to be an active member of WALLA; she continues to be the webmaster and will be assuming the responsibilities as newsletter editor. Due to our association with the library, we have been able to hold several classes in their facility, including films throughout the year. Their parking garage is open during WALLA classes where we are permitted to park for free. Since Elizabeth Cuddy has been in charge of the Film and Friends, we have been provided a great variety of films; the attendance continues to grow. Thank you again for being an important part of who WALLA is.

### **WL Parks & Recreation-Morton**

Pennie Ainsworth, Asst. Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, Bess Witcosky, Morton Community Center Director, and Marianne Gaio, Administrative Assistant, have worked together to assure that our past year at Morton was successful while providing rental rates that were reasonable. Pennie and Bess have also been very helpful in providing guidance regarding the city's decisions on the future of West Lafayette's City Hall. Thank you all for being part of the WALLA family.

The year ahead will be full of challenges that I am confident we will successfully handle appropriately. It is also filled with exciting programs, both here and on the road in which I am sure you will want to participate.

Respectfully submitted: Vince Green, President

# **Curriculum Committee Report**

For fiscal year 2014 the Curriculum Committee was co-chaired by Robert Slagel and Jacques Delleur.

The Curriculum Committee bears the responsibility of developing the spring and fall class sessions, including the luncheon speakers and trips associated with some of the classes. New members are welcomed, and indeed needed, to offer class suggestions and to develop new courses.

The Curriculum Committee held its FOCUS GROUPS meetings on September 23, 2013 and on February 19, 2014 and a brown bag lunch was held on November 4, 2013 to entertain course suggestions for the spring and the fall 2014, respectively. No brown bag lunch is planned for April, 2014. The Focus Groups meetings and the brown bag lunch are the principal sources of ideas for future classes. Other sources include the suggestions from members, class evaluation slips and the list of courses held in the past; a few of the more popular courses may be repeated after some time. The Focus Group meetings and the brown bag lunches are open to all WALLA participants. About 18 WALLA members were present at the last Focus Groups meeting and about 15 participated in the brown bag lunch. Although the brown bag lunch is less structured than the Focus Groups meeting, it is a valuable source of suggestion input from different participants. Summaries of the suggestions made at the Focus Groups meetings and at the brown bag lunch were prepared by the co-chairs and distributed to the Curriculum Committee.

The committee met on April 30, 2013 to develop class offerings for the fall 2013 session and again on May 31, 2013 to build a tentative class schedule. The coordinators were requested to submit their material for the brochure to Mary Gardner by July 10, 2013, so she could assemble the fall brochure in time for the picnic party on August 22. The coordinators met on October 8, 2013 for the preparations for the fall 2013 classes; Mary Gardner informed them of the respective approximate enrollments and room assignments; speaker's gifts (Panera and Starbucks gift cards, or memory sticks) were distributed. Fall classes were held from October 14 to November 7. Fifteen full length classes and 15 mini-courses were held with two hundred sixty one participating.

The Curriculum Committee met on November 19, 2013 and on December 11, 2013 to develop the course program and build a tentative schedule for the spring 2014. A meeting of the class coordinators was held on March 19, 2014 to receive the class enrollments and room assignments from our Coordinator Mary Gardner and to submit the AV requirements to Etta Lazaros. Speaker's gifts (Panera and Starbucks gift cards, or memory sticks) were distributed. Eighteen full length courses were offered and

12 mini-courses were given. Spring 2014 classes were held from March 24 to April 17. Approximately two hundred thirty registrants participated including about 25 new participants. The beautiful green brochure was unveiled at the pizza party on February 13.

As in previous years the course offerings were varied. If you like to start your Monday or Wednesday with some exercises, Nancy Hart and Jim Carter kept you moving in their "Pumping Rust", otherwise you might have chosen Gail Beck's "Keeping a Sharp Brain" or Brianne Carpenter's "From Canning to Cakes". If a good cup of coffee kept you alert this could be followed by Ralph Webb's "Impersonal Communications" or Jo Sullivan's "Short Story Club" or Jim Turley and Joe Krause's "War of 1812". After a good lunch some tea might be in order and Linda Taulman offered the "Art of Tea". Those more policy oriented might prefer the course on "Energy" coordinated by Jacques Delleur, or the more entertaining "Short Comic Films" with Marshall Deutelbaum. How about finishing the day with Jules Janick's "Plants, Art and History" or Vince Green's "Hot and Cold Cultures" or getting tips from "Gee, Mom, You used to be Pretty" coordinated by Nancy Hart.

You may start your Tuesday or Thursday with the VIIIth edition of Gail Beck's "The Play is the Thing", while those interested in perfecting their photography skills could do so with Dwayne Daehler. The more politically oriented might prefer "What If... How American History Might be different" led by Jim Garland or Joe Krause's "How Historians Interpret the Past". As usual, Jim Moore presided over the "Great Decisions", while Nancy Hartman coordinated "Transportation in the Midwest", a course related to the forthcoming summer outing. For those scientifically oriented "the Birth and Death of Stars" might be the thing while Mark and Sarita Levinthal kept us young at heart with their "Cycling past Fifty". If your lunch was light you might still have room for Ned Derhammer's "The Everyday Gourmet"; otherwise, Etta Lazaro's "Creating Greeting Cards" or "Introduction to Hand-Bells" with Sandy Furr might be the thing. What a splendid way to end the day with Judy Wright's "Four famous Novellas" presented by Cecilia Grenier or "Meet the Artists" with Dwayne Daehler!

The Curriculum Committee plans to meet on April 29, 2014 to develop the course program for the fall 2014 with a follow-up meeting on May 30. Course information will be due to Mary Gardner at the end of May.

The Curriculum Committee wishes to express its gratitude to Mary Gardner for her outstanding role in finalizing the course programs and presenting us with crafted brochures that fully describe the curriculum.

# **Programming Committee**

In 2013-14 the Programming Committee served WALLA participants with monthly films, occasional trips, and participation in One Great Read events.

Jack Delleur and Ann Skadberg collaborated in planning "A Night Out" (Saturday May 18) with dinner at Sylvia's Brick Oven followed by "The Lights of Broadway" concert at the Long Center in Lafayette. A total of 35 attended.

June 2013 Gail Beck and Blythe Lee led 52 WALLA travelers on a well-planned tour of various Chicago ethnic restaurants and grocery stores: Chinese, Polish, Italian, Mexican, eclectic American, Swedish and South Asian. Related neighborhoods included Chinatown, Hull House, Southside Chicago, Millennial Park, a Ukrainian church, and the Chicago Historical Society. A four-session mini-course in the Spring of 2013 helped prepare many who signed up for the trip.

The Summer Festival "Films for Anglophiles" organized by Elizabeth Cuddy (West Lafayette Public Library) and approved by our committee enjoyed widespread acceptance with 137 total viewers The on-going Film Series jointly sponsored by WALLA and Friends of the Library continued to draw interested WALLA participants as well as the general public. WALLA supports the series by purchasing the DVD's which become part of the permanent West Lafayette Library collection. Attendance for the regular film series was also higher than the previous year.

Joe Krause represented WALLA on the One Great Read committee. The 2013 selection was Erik Larson's, *The Devil in the White City*. Superior Court Judge Tom Busch prepared a PowerPoint program "The Human Zoo: People on Display at the Columbian Exposition" Joe Krause and Scott Tracey of the West Lafayette Public Library worked with Judge Busch to prepare his presentation given twice in October in conjunction with One Great Read programs in the community. Sallie Cooke has stepped forward as WALLA's next representative on the One Great Read planning committee. She reported that the 2013 book selection over-all drew 750 people as compared to 393 for Kurt Vonnegut in 2012.

Ann Skadberg assisted by Peggy Housley planned and Ann conducted the September 19 themed-trip "A Day of Indianapolis German History". Forty-two (42) participants visited Heidelberg Haus, Claus' German Sausage & Meats, the Historic Athenaeum Building where lunch was served in the Rathskellar Restaurant. The group was split into wine-tasters at Easley Winery and beer-samplers at Sun King Brewery. All re-assembled for the last stop at "Best Chocolate in Town". An extremely well planned and conducted trip.

Jack Delleur and Ann Skadberg once again cooperated in arranging for dinner at Sylvia's Brick Oven followed by a Lafavette Symphony program "Holiday Pops" on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

This was probably the last nice weekend as far as weather goes for months and months.

Russ Clark, in particular, and many from the committee worked hard to plan a visit to Clinton County Library and Cultural Center for January 8, 2014. Despite our efforts, the weather was dreadful and so that trip was cancelled. The WALLA Winter Getaway to McCormick's Creek State Park organized by Gail Beck and Blythe Lee was more fortunate although the entire event was kicked forward exactly one month into March. (5-6-7) This most popular of all WALLA Programming trips had over ninety originally planning to go. The shift by one month whittled that number down to 85.. Blythe Lee introduced and led discussions after viewing three films directed by "actors who became directors" Two motor coaches took our groups to Grays Brothers Cafeteria in Mooresville on the way back home.

The Programming Committee members cooperated with planners of the "Brainstorming and Chili Cook-off" in January. We were particularly interested in general comments about WALLA Programs that those attending the "Brainstorming Session" found enjoyable or wanted to see added or improved.

On February 16 WALLA presenter Dwayne Daehler took viewers on a photographic excursion "Sunday Afternoon in Scotland". This program was done in cooperation with the West Lafayette Public Library. Mary Gardner and Nancy Hartman worked on this event which attracted about fifty persons.

Upcoming trips include May 8 "What's So Special about Benton County" being organized by Mary Gardner with assistance of a new committee member Mary Jo Pflum.

The major summer trip "Planes, Boats, Trains and Cars" to sites in Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio has been organized by Nancy Hartman and Linda Taulman. The dates are: June 17-18-19. Complete details appear in an upcoming newsletter. In addition a four-session mini-course has been organized for the second two weeks of the 2014 Spring class session.

Planning for a potential one-day trip to the Art Institute or Chicago Historical Museum or Chicago Natural History museum is still "a work in progress".

A Programming Committee Survey designed by Joe Krause and extensively critiqued by committee members will be taken to the Executive Committee at some later date.

Committee members include: Joe Krause, Gail Beck, Russ Clark, Sallie Cooke, Elizabeth Cuddy (WLPL), Jack Delleur, Lyn Doyle, Mary Gardner, Nancy Hartman, Peggy Housley, Blythe Lee, Mary Jo Pflum, Tom Schott, Ann Skadberg, and Linda Taulman

Submitted by Joe Krause, chairperson

# **Publicity Committee**

The publicity committee is unlike some committees who meet regularly and have donuts or lunch; we do not tend to meet as a committee, yet we function well to get out the word about WALLA. Various people have taken on tasks related to publicity and are very autonomous in seeing that they are completed. The primary ways our organization has to communicate with fellow participants is through the newsletter and the online website. The Publicity Committee has published six bi-monthly WALLA newsletters during the fiscal year of 2013-14. The WALLA community can keep informed of events that are being organized and scheduled, as well as those that have recently occurred. There has been excellent input, such as providing pictures and write-ups on numerous WALLA activities. Newsletters are mailed to WALLA participants in May, July, September, November, January, and March. Currently over 600 copies of each issue of the newsletter are printed for delivery to homes of participants and institutions such as libraries and other senior groups. Copies are kept in the WALLA office for "walk-ins."

It takes many eyes to see to the accuracy of information in the newsletters; consistent help in the area of proofreading has come from Etta Lazaros, Joe Krause, Barbara Krause, Vince Green, and Kathleen Connolly. Rick Abrahamson and his team at CopyMat print the newsletter; they do great work and are wonderful people with whom to work. The newsletter and other publicity materials take several hands to do the labeling and mailing to members. Continuing gratitude goes to all of the willing workers who act as the production team: Charlene Watson, Gail Beck, and Jim Moore.

Our organization continues to use various forms of media to get out the message about WALLA classes and special events, as chairs of committees and board members deem appropriate. At times, appropriate written and verbal notices are provided during classes. Articles have been found in the Lafayette Journal & Courier; Mary Gardner has played a key role in area-wide publicity this year.

We appreciate all of the efforts made to keep our website up to date. Webmaster Nancy Hartman, as well as Joe Krause, Etta Lazaros, and Sallie Cooke, maintain the website. The current newsletter can always be found on the website; the advantage of seeing it there is that it is in color! The WALLA website is **www.wallaonline.org**; it is also accessible through a link on the homepage of the West Lafayette Public Library. Thanks to all for this extension of our communication with members and the community. A big thank you goes out from this committee to the board members and each of the other committees who assist us. All are appreciated.

Respectfully submitted by Marilyn Green, Chairperson

# **Board Development Committee**

In August 2013, Nancy Hart, for personal reasons, submitted her letter of resignation from both the office of WALLA President and the WALLA Board. After deliberation of the WALLA Board Executive Committee, her resignation was accepted and Vince Green was moved up from his office of Vice President to complete Nancy's term as President before he assumes his own term in that office. Mary Quinn was nominated to fill Nancy's board vacancy which will expire 4/30/2016. Existing board member Dennis Sorge was asked to complete Vince's term as Vice President and then assume his own term in that position which he accepted. The above actions were all approved by the board.

Ann Skadberg and Linda Taulman, whose 1st 3 year terms expire 4/30/2014, have agreed to serve second 3 year terms, if elected.

Virginia Carter, Russ Clark, Barbara Krause, Tom Schott, and Judith Wright will have served two consecutive terms on the board on 4/30/2014. They are statutorily ineligible for another term at this time. The committee is pleased that Leslie Brost, Marshall Deutelbaum, Patrick Egan , Nancy Hartman, and Howard Magadanz have agreed to be 1st term board candidates to fill the board vacancies, if elected. Their 1st terms will expire 4/30/2017.

Accordingly, the Board Development Committee nominates the following candidates to serve three-year terms commencing 5/1/2014 and expiring 4/30/2017:

Leslie Brost, 1st term

Marshall Deutelbaum, 1st term

Patrick Egan, 1st term

Nancy Hartman, 1st term

Howard Magadanz, 1st term

Ann Skadberg, 2<sup>nd</sup> term

Linda Taulman, 2<sup>nd</sup> term

Submitted by, James Moore, Chairperson, Gail Beck, Joe Krause, Tom Schott

# **Advisory Committee**

The WALLA office is open from 10 am until 1 pm on the weekdays that Morton Center is open. Approximately thirty members volunteer time and service to welcome visitors, respond to phone calls and e-mails, maintain office cleanliness, and assist with mailings and other office tasks. Additional volunteers are always welcomed and needed. If you would like to become an Office Volunteer, please contact Dixie Frye (474-2565) or Charlene Watson (474-9101)

An Office Advisory Committee, co-chaired by Dixie Frye and Charlene Watson, directs operations of the office. Jim Moore maintains the office computer. Other members of the Advisory Committee include Virginia Carter, Gloria Huffman, Barbara Krause, Etta Lazaros, and Jo Sullivan.

Gloria Huffman, an Office Volunteer, continued the ministry of sending Get Well cards and Sympathy cards to our WALLA friends who need a bit of cheer and to improve our ability to "take care" of each other. This support has been very well received. Please communicate to Gloria (497-2052) if you are aware of a need within the WALLA family.

The WALLA Office also functions as an exhibition gallery for collections and art under the supervision of Virginia Carter. WALLA members and guests enjoy viewing the art, crafts, and collections graciously shared by fellow members. Do you have something you would like to share with us? If so, please contact Virginia at 474-2042 or Etta at 426-3860

Respectfully submitted, Dixie Frye and Charlene Watson

# Audit Report - Fiscal Year 2013 - 2014

The Audit Committee of the Wabash Area Lifetime Learning Association, Inc. reviewed the financial records of the organization on March 27, 2014. We believe the books are in good order, properly handled to accurately show income and expense in a manner which is consistent with acceptable accounting methods. The organization's financial position has been presented accurately by the treasurer, Gail Beck and the assistant treasurer Mary Quinn and they have executed their duties responsibly and commendably.

Submitted by: Tom Schott, Chair, Leslie Brost, Member, Jim Moore, Member

# **Audio Visual Support Committee**

The Audio Visual Committee continues to serve the needs of WALLA during classes and special events.

Chairperson Dick Hayden, due to his continuing health concerns, resigned as chairperson of the committee. His presence is missed. Etta Lazaros, who had been assuming the role of acting chairperson, assumed the chairperson role. Long time audio visual member and consistent sound board operator during classes, Dick Bergdahl, also retired from the committee. His shoes will also be difficult to fill. Current members of the committee are Etta Lazaros, Joe Krause, Doug Hart, Carl Hartman, Russ Clark, and Russ Noble.

The WALLA Board approved the purchase of a projector to be used with our computers. One of the two projectors used in the small classrooms does not project true color and has minimal shape projecting issues and needs to be replaced. Despite the Board's approval, due to our uncertain temporary relocation, the committee is going to wait to see what the AV needs of our temporary location will dictate before purchasing the new projector.

The committee continues to fill requests that class presenters have and encourages the use of our equipment whenever possible. Time constraints between classes makes things more difficult when personal equipment is used. The committee is also hesitant to get involved with others' equipment. We have found that our VHS players are now getting little use with most presentations being on dvd's, or projected from the internet, or PowerPoint presentations.

The audio visual committee would like to welcome anyone who would like to join us. Submitted, Etta Lazaros

# Financial Report as of March 27, 2014

Lafayette Bank and Trust Checking Account Balance	\$14,017.09
Lafayette Bank and Trust Certificate of Deposit Balance	5,310.51
Property	<u>6,131.35</u>
Balance	\$25,458.95

# **Special Events Committee Report**

The Special Events Committee has many diverse responsibilities. We set up and take down the free hot beverages everyday that WALLA classes are in session. (In an effort to be more environmentally friendly, the WALLA Board is now asking attendees to bring their own reusable hot drink mugs or cups.) Also, Morton has recyclable containers outside of the multi-purpose room for plastics and recyclable paper products. The first two days of classes, in the Fall and in the Spring, the committee provides complimentary bagels and cream spreads. We also arrange the catering of box lunches for the four speaker luncheons, two in the Fall and two in the Spring.

In late August, the Special Events Committee provides a picnic for WALLA members and guests in cooperation with the Curriculum Committee. The February pizza party is also co-sponsored by these two committees. At these events, everyone has an opportunity to enjoy food, socialize, and learn about the classes that WALLA is offering for the next session. Brochures are available at that time.

Virginia Carter and Judy Wright, Special Event Co-Chairs, and their committee organized the WALLA picnic at the beautiful Social Hall of St. Lawrence Church for August 22, 2013. The weather was pleasantly warm for August and about 180 guests came, a record for that event. We all enjoyed a wonderful fried chicken dinner catered by D&R. The Curriculum Committee distributed the brochures for the Fall classes and introduced the presenters of the Fall courses. They in turn described their courses.

Ninety -four people attend the first Speaker Luncheon on Tuesday October 22. As we enjoyed delicious box lunches from Jane's Gourmet Deli , Pam Mow, president of the Greater Lafayette Honor Flights, spoke about "One Last Mission." On October 30, the second Speaker Luncheon, Kathy Loser and David Busiick talked about "The History of the Farmers Institute." Jane's Gourmet Deli again pampered the taste buds of 108 guests with her box lunches.

During the snowiest and coldest winter in 30 years, we held our breath as to whether our Arni's Pizza Party scheduled for February 13, 2014 would be doable. Indeed, West Lafayette Schools maintenance men and our hardy male WALLA members cleared the worst of the ice off the two parking lots at the Burtsfield Gymnasium in West Lafayette, the sun shone brightly, and 182 guests came. It was a record number for that occasion! Catered for the twelfth year by Arni's Pizza, we all enjoyed our tasty lunch of Arni's pizza and junior salads, while the Curriculum Committee invited the presenters of the Spring classes to give a brief insight into their courses. Brochures were passed out to all attendees and their organizations.

The first Spring Speaker Luncheon of 2014 was held Tuesday, April 1. Again we had Jane's delectable box lunches to enjoy as we listened to Opera de Lafayette present "Opera in a Suitcase" starring Peg Bryan, Lynn Griffin, Ellen Bulow and Suzanne Paine. On Wednesday, April 9, Jan Mills, director of Economic Development for the Purdue Research Park, spoke. She addressed the issue of "Recruiting Business to the Purdue Research Park." Jane's tasty box lunches accompanied the talk.

The Special Events Committee is fun-loving and hard-working. We are always appreciative of finding new committee members to share our goal of making WALLA not only an inspiring place to learn, but an enjoyable place to socialize, have adventures and make new friends. Do contact us if you would like to help. Remember..."the more the merrier" and "many hands make light work."

Submitted by: Virginia Carter and Judy Wright (2013-2014 Co-Chairs)

Members: Janet Buhrmester, Virginia Carter, Jim Carter, Kathleen Connolly, Sallie Cooke, JoEllen Cox, DeLores Delleur, Dixie Frye, Phyllis Gobreski, Jocelyn Grutzner, Peggy Housley, Inge Maresh, SuzAnn Schott, Ann Skadberg, Jo Sullivan, Cicely Ward, Judy Wright

# Wabash Area Lifetime Learning Association, Inc.

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Wabash Area Lifetime Learning Association, Inc. (WALLA) is to offer intellectual, cultural, and social opportunities for individuals 50 years of age and older.

# **BY-LAWS**

### **ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of the organization shall be Wabash Area Lifetime Learning Association, Inc. (WALLA). It is affiliated with the Elderhostel Institute Network and Purdue Extended Campus.

### ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of WALLA shall be to offer opportunities for intellectual stimulation, rewarding cultural and social activities, and personal growth.

### ARTICLE III – PARTICIPANTS

- 1. Participation shall be open to persons 50 years of age and older. There are no educational prerequisites beyond the desire to continue learning.
- 2. The WALLA participation year shall run from May 1 through April 30 of the following year.
- 3. The Board of Directors shall establish class registration fees for participants.
- 4. Class registrants have the following benefits: participating in special events, becoming a member of the Board of Directors, serving on committees, and voting at the Annual Meeting.
- A special participants' meeting may be called upon written request to the President by ten participants in which the reason for the special meeting is clearly stated and justified.

## **ARTICLE IV- BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Board)**

1. The governing body shall be a 20-member volunteer Board, elected by the class participants at the Annual Meeting. Members of the Board will serve for three-year terms on a rotating basis, but not to exceed two consecutive three-year terms. In addition, the Past President shall serve one year as an ex-officio member with vote. A representative from Purdue's Extended Campus, the West Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department, the Director of Morton Center, and a representative from the West Lafayette Public Library shall serve as ex-officio members of the Board without vote. The Board shall establish policies, institute programs and activities, and be responsive to the wishes and needs of the members.

- The Board elects the following officers to serve one year: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The President and Vice President shall not serve more than two consecutive terms. The Board shall elect officers at the first meeting following the Annual Meeting.
- 3. Board members are required to attend at least two-thirds of the meetings called, unless excused. The voting members present shall constitute a quorum at each meeting of the Board.
- 4. The minutes of all Board meetings, as prepared by the Secretary and approved by the Board, shall be the official record of WALLA's policies and procedures.
- 5. The President shall appoint a WALLA participant to complete an unexpired term should a vacancy occur.
- 6. All regular Board meetings shall be open to any WALLA participant in good standing. No voting privileges are implied.

### ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD

The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the Board, the immediate Past President, and the liaison from Purdue Extended Campus.

### The Executive Committee shall:

- Establish the time of meetings
- Meet one week prior to each Board meeting
- Handle matters needing immediate attention
- Keep abreast of the overall status of WALLA and make recommendations to the Board
- Be responsible for orientation of new Board members.

### **ARTICLE V - OFFICERS OF THE BOARD**

The President shall:

- Prepare the agenda for and preside at all Executive Committee meetings, Board meetings, and the Annual Meeting
- Appoint chairs of all standing committees and other committees that may be established
- Appoint an historian to maintain a permanent history of WALLA's activities and programs
- Serve as an ex-officio member of all standing committees except the Executive Committee, which the President chairs
- Ensure that a coordinated program for the ensuing year, including classes, projects, and activities, be developed and provided for participants.
- Call special meetings of the Board whenever necessary
- Appoint a Board Development Committee which, at the Annual Meeting, shall
  present a slate of nominees for election to the Board for the ensuing year

- Appoint an Officer Nominating Committee which, at the first meeting of the new Board, shall present a slate of nominees for election as officers of the Board for the ensuing year
- Appoint replacement(s) for officers during the course of the year if such action is needed, as directed by the Board
- Appoint Ad Hoc committees as needed and appoint replacements for unexpired terms, with consult of the chair of Board Development, should a vacancy occur
- Write thank you letters to new attendees.

### The Vice President shall:

- Assist the President in the performance of his or her duties
- In the absence of the President, perform all the functions of the President
- Be responsible for organizing the Annual Meeting.

### The Secretary shall:

- Record and distribute minutes of Executive and Board meetings at the Annual Meeting
- Carry out correspondence as directed by the President
- Notify appropriate personnel of all Executive and Board meetings
- Maintain a list of Board members, including phone numbers and email addresses
- Maintain copies of all official records relating to WALLA.

### The Treasurer shall:

- Manage WALLA funds with the approval of the Board
- Work with the Purdue Extended Campus liaison, as appropriate, in matters relating to finances
- Serve as chair of the Finance and Budget Committee
- Prepare and submit a financial report at Board meetings, the Annual Meeting and other meetings, as requested by the President.

### ARTICLE VI- STANDING COMMITTEES

Committee chairs are appointed by the President.

- 1. Finance and Budget Committee, chaired by the Treasurer, shall:
  - a. Prepare an annual budget, in consultation with appropriate committees and persons, for approval by the Board
  - b. Engage in long range financial planning.

### 2. Curriculum Committee shall:

- a. Identify and be responsive to curriculum interests of participants
- b. Plan and carry out the curriculum
- c. Provide the Publicity Committee with appropriate information
- d. Evaluate and make changes, as needed, in the curriculum

- e. Determine the needs and reserve classroom space accordingly
- f. Secure fall and spring luncheon speakers
- g. Submit an annual budget to the Finance and Budget Committee for approval.

# 3. Special Events Committee shall:

- a. Plan and provide social and recreational events
- b. Be responsible for hosts and hostesses and for refreshments, as appropriate
- c. Submit an annual budget to the Finance and Budget Committee for approval.

# 4. **Publicity Committee** shall:

- a. Prepare and disseminate information, supplied by committees, concerning the purpose and programs of WALLA to potential participants, supporting groups, and the general public
- b. Prepare a bi-monthly newsletter to be mailed to participants and posted on the WALLA Web site
- c. Prepare additional publications as appropriate
- d. Submit an annual budget to the Finance and Budget Committee for approval.

# **5. Programming Committee** shall:

- a. Oversee the development, organization, and implementation of all WALLA learning and enrichment activities that normally occur outside the traditional fall and spring WALLA semesters
- b. Monitor program planning expenses to be reimbursed
- c. Work in parallel and coordinate activities with the standing Curriculum Committee
- d. Make monthly and annual reports to the Board
- e. Submit an annual budget to the Finance and Budget Committee for approval.

# 6. Audio Visual (AV) Committee shall:

- a. Purchase, or otherwise acquire, with Board approval, AV equipment and supplies to accommodate the needs of WALLA courses and programs
- b. Develop and provide training for new committee members in the setup and operation of AV equipment for WALLA programs and events
- Prepare an AV equipment line-item request for the annual budget to cover anticipated expenses for new AV equipment, supplies, maintenance, and repairs as needed
- d. Maintain an AV equipment inventory record in the WALLA office.

# 7. Office Advisory Committee shall:

- Maintain office volunteer schedule
- b. Maintain the WALLA database that includes historical data of participation, and paper and digital copies of WALLA newsletters
- c. Maintain office supply needs

- d. Participate in the upkeep of the office organization, attractiveness and cleanliness
- e. Submit an annual budget to the Finance and Budget Committee.

### **8. Audit Committee shall:**

- a. Be appointed by the President and shall review the financial transactions consummated by the treasurer on an annual basis
- b. The report shall be submitted to the Board for inclusion in the Annual Report.

### **ARTICLE VII- ANNUAL MEETING**

- 1. The Vice President shall determine the date of the WALLA Annual Meeting.
- 2. Those present shall constitute a quorum.
- 3. The Board of Directors shall be elected at the Annual Meeting.
- 4. A special meeting may be called by the President, the purpose of which shall be stated in the call. A two-week notification shall be given prior to the meeting.

### ARTICLE VIII-AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the participants present at the Annual Meeting. Amendments shall be proposed only by the Board and must be submitted in writing to the participants at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

### **ARTICLE IX-PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised, shall govern the conduct of all meetings.

Approved at Annual Meeting 05/04/2012

# **Board Member Contact Information**

2013-2014 WALLA Board Members	. Telephone		E-mail Address				
Vince Green, President	765-427-9056		vincentwgreen@comcast.net				
Russ Clark, Past President							
Dennis Sorge, Vice President							
Kathleen Connolly, Secretary							
Gail Beck, Treasurer	765-743-9	920	beckgebeck2001@aol.com				
Dorothy Jones			,, -,				
Barbara Krause	765-743-8	8853	bgkrause6836@gmail.com				
Russ Noble			-				
Tom Schott, CH Audit			, , ,				
Virginia Carter, CoCH Spec Events							
Judith Wright, CoCH Spec Events							
Charlene Watson, CoCh OA Cmte							
Sallie Cooke, OGR Repr			-				
Alan Williams							
Etta Lazaros, Ch AV Cmte			-,				
Mary Quinn, Asst Treasurer							
Robert Slagel, CoCH Curriculum							
Ann Skadberg							
Linda Taulman							
Peggy Housley	765-743-2		tom1peggy2@yahoo.com				
<b>Ex-officio</b> Mary Gardner, Purdue Liaison and Coordinator 1-800-359-2968; 765-494-5760megardner@purdue.edu							
			maryevelyn11@sbcglobal.net				
Pennie Ainsworth, West Lafayette Parks & Recreation			painsworth@westlafayette.in.gov				
Nancy Hartman, West Lafayette Public Library, Webr		765-564-29091	ippy_riverrat@gmail.com				
Bess Witcosky, Morton Community Center Director &	Scheduler	765-775-5120	bwitcosky@wl.in.gov				
		215-668-6582					
Morton Community Center		765-775-5120					
WALLA OFFICE, Morton Room 209			walla222@frontier.com				
			walladesktop@gmail.com				
WALLA WEB SITE			www.wallaonline.org				
Non-Board Member Committee Chairs & Co-Chairs							
Marilyn Green, CH Newsletter	765-427-9	067	marilynsgreen@comcast.net				
Joseph Krause, CH Programming							
Jim Moore, CH Board Devel	765-477-6	5177	gymmore@gmail.com				
Dixie Frye, CoCh OFF.ADVISORY765=474		2565	jondix1943@hotmail.com				
Jacques Delleur, CoCh Curriculum765-497		316	delleur@frontier.com				
New Board Nominees 2014							
Leslie Brost			richard.brost@ffni.com				
Marshall Deutelbaum							
Patrick Egan							
Nancy Hartman765-							
Howard Magadanz							