

THE ALIRIAN

August/September 2024



Michael Burns
Chair



Hello ALIRians:

As we start our fall semester, it can be fun to remember what that was like in our school days. Anticipation, excitement, eagerness to meet new friends and looking forward to learning new things. I think you'll find all these reasons to be excited with our community and classes for the fall!

We have 80 classes available, on campus and online, and I think we have the best lineup of fascinating and participative classes we've ever had at ALIR.

COME JOIN US, and we encourage you to invite your eligible friends (over age 50), to check us out. Our best marketing tool for ALIR is the testimony of our active members who can tell of our unique combination of lifetime learning, physical activity and supportive community. **SEE YOU IN CLASS.**



Ringin' Questions

"They rangin'!" I sang!
"What? When? Who? Why?"
I'll answer the first two, first.
The other two, I can only try—They are the worst!
Doorbells, phone bells, even a train.
Morning, Noon and Night,
To make my Life loud and with such Pain!
Breakfast, Lunch and even Dinner,
I don't get fatter, I just get thinner!
Because of Robots and maybe:
Some teenaged Sinner?

—Joanna McKinnis

Election Dates & Deadlines

Yes, Tuesday, 5 November is just around the corner and here are some important dates for you to know.

Last day to register (in Texas):

Monday, October 7

Early Voting (in Texas):

Monday, October 21 - Friday, November 1

Last day to apply for ballot by mail:

Friday, October 25

Contact: Bexar County Elections 210-335-8683, or your local elections office for more information.

ALIR MISSION STATEMENT

Academy of Learning in Retirement (ALIR) is an all-volunteer organization which provides opportunities for lifelong learning with social and community engagement.

Fall 2024 & Spring 2025 Calendar Dates

September 4	Instructor/new student orientation
September 9	Fall classes begin
October 7	1 st luncheon
October 14	Spring 2025 applications available
November 13	2 nd luncheon
November 13	Spring applications due
November 25-29	Thanksgiving break
December 3	3 rd luncheon
December 4	Art show set-up
December 5	Art show
December 6	Fall semester ends
January 6	Spring catalog released
January 6- 13	Spring fees paid
January 13	Spring registration
January 20	NEISD Holiday
January 22	Instructor/new student orientation
January 27	Spring semester begins
February 18	1 st luncheon
March 5	Summer applications available
March 10- 14	Spring break
March 19	2 nd Luncheon
April 7	Summer application due
April 15	3 rd Lunch & scholarships
April 18	Good Friday
April 22	Art show set-up
April 23	Art show
April 25	Spring semester ends

Fall 2024 three-week classes

1 st	Sept. 9 th - Sept. 27 th
2 nd	Sept. 30 th - Oct. 18 th
3 rd	Oct. 21 st - Nov. 8 th
4 th	Nov. 11 th - Dec. 6 th

Fall 2024 six-week classes

1 st	Sept. 9 th - Oct. 18 th
2 nd	Oct. 21 st - Dec. 6 th

Spring 2025 three-week classes

1 st	Jan. 27 th - Feb. 14 th
2 nd	Feb. 17 th - Mar. 7 th
3 rd	Mar. 17 st - Apr. 4 th
4 th	Apr. 7 th - Apr. 25 th

Spring 2025 six-week classes

1 st	Jan. 27 th - March 7 th
2 nd	March 17 st - Apr. 25 th

Semester Beginning & Ending Dates

Spring 2025
January 27th- April 25th

Summer 2025
June 2- August 8

PLEASE HELP ALIR GROW

There is so much more we want to do for our ALIRian community, but that takes funding.

Please Consider ALIR.

We are a 501.c.3 non-profit educational service for seniors, providing life-long learning in a social setting, intellectual stimulation and scholarships.

Thank you for your support

◆Old or Tired Eyes◆

Old eyes sometimes need a little help. If you, or someone you know is fifty-five years of age or older, and can no longer drive because of poor vision, but still wants to maintain or improve their independence, the **Texas Workforce Commission's OIB Program** for older individuals who are blind may be able to help you. Please call: **1-844-633-3642**. Learning to live with less vision is possible and can make those "golden years" shine more brightly.

—Larry Johnson

BISCUITS

My recipe for biscuits
is in the back of my mind.
It is the very best recipe
that you will ever find.

I have a round glass pan
I like to bake them in.
They cook up so much higher
then on a flat one made of tin.

I melt three-fourths cup of butter
in the oven set at three-fifty.
Then put flour on my rolling board,
and now I'm all ready.

In the bowl, I mix my flour and salt,
then add my baking powder.
I need to stir it real good,
with the milk and butter.

In thirty minutes they'll be done.
I'll put them on the table to eat.
With some butter and good jelly,
those biscuits can't be beat.

Cards of Acknowledgement

If you know someone in our ALIR community who needs a card of sympathy, a get-well wish or other words of encouragement (please be specific), notify JoAnn Fielden at prsnk.t@att.Net or Rhonda McRae at ALIR@neisd.net.

◆Summer Ukulele Class◆



Your stories, poems and ideas
can be published
in upcoming newsletters.



Please send your submissions to:

Rodney Brown -- rrbrown67@147thhillclimbers.org
Barbara Maphet -- bmaphet@luxurypresentations.com

VOCABULARY

Contemplating retirement I worried about boredom, fearful I would become lethargic. I'd been bored in my life, looking for more to do, but never once said I felt lethargic.

While single, I was often lonely, wanting busyness to fill endless weekend hours. Sundays, too quiet, too solo. I probably was, but never thought, "I'm lethargic".

No longer single, Sundays became peaceful, mostly stay-at-home, quiet, filled with newspapers, crosswords, TV golf, sandwiches for lunch. Laid back, not lethargic.

The word is so theatrical, vowelly, maybe said in a Tennessee Williams play by a sweaty woman (never a man). Hankie in hand, she exclaims, "I'm very lethargic".

Post-retirement there's lots of time to organize chaotic closets, sift through boxes unopened for years. Hours spent reminiscing, sorting, laughing. Me lethargic?

Start quilting again, learn embroidery from YouTube, crochet a winter throw. Take a Zen painting class, another on world finance, energized, hardly lethargic.

There are days that threaten boredom, empty of appointments, errands, projects, just a novel to read. The day may be lazy, lackadaisical, slow, but I wouldn't say lethargic.

Now you see, Anna, your retirement anxiety was unwarranted. There's still no need for a hankie to clutch, because you don't feel, and have no reason to say, "I'm lethargic".

—Anna Hoelting

If you want to learn about Ghazal (guzzie), join Jean Jackson's poetry class like Anna did.



CAT NAPS

Gigi spends her Nights
doing her Laps.
not as a Swimmer,
but she sets her Sights
on Fields of Cloth,
like a Gypsy Moth.

— Joanne McKinnis





**SAN ANTONIAN
FRED KERLEY WINS THE
BRONZE MEDAL IN
MEN'S 100M FINAL AT THE
2024 SUMMER OLYMPICS.**



**Congratulations
to
Fred Kerley,
Rhonda's nephew**



**“The Holocaust is our
legacy. We forget it at our
peril. If we choose to learn
from it, we may use it as a
torch to light the path to a
better world where all of
us see ourselves in the
faces of strangers.”**

This quote from Maxine Cohen (1929 - 2024), co-founder of the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio, hangs on the wall at the entrance of the museum located inside the Jewish Federation of San Antonio building on Northwest Military Highway. The museum opened its doors to the public in May 2000.

Cohen, founding director of the Holocaust Memorial Museum is remembered as “a pioneer in Holocaust education.” She had a unique ability to relate to survivors and weave their testimonies into museum and school presentations. Their stories humanized events of the Holocaust with a lasting impact, not possible by a presenter or volunteer.

Not many knew she was also a published author of short fiction, a classically trained pianist and a renowned pastry chef. She'd greet visitors to her home with fresh brownies and cookies and a hearty, “Hey kid, come on in!”

Her educational program remains the foundation of the curriculum and presentations at the 24-year-old museum.

Scholarship Fund

Please donate to the Bill Howland Memorial Scholarship Fund. Donations can be left with Rhonda or checks mailed to Tom Colbourn, Council Treasurer.

ALL DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED

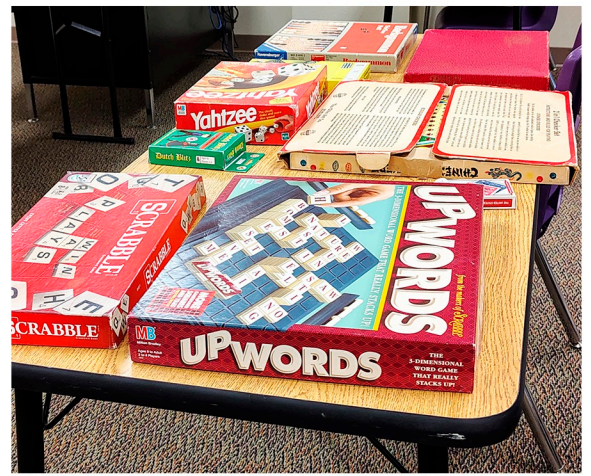
*ALIR
Remembers*

Dorothy “Dottie” M. (Smith) Fowler
Fran Stelzriede
Mary “Pat” Weil
Charlene Wimer (1st ALIR Chairperson)

ALIR SUMMER FUN CLASSES



Father & Daughter
in class together



The Games Galore Class and The Fun Games They Play



Getting Ready for the Heartfull Meditation Class



Introduction to Ukulele Class