

RNN Newsletter

November 2019



National Parks: Near and Far

Tuesday, November 19th at 2:30pm

On Tuesday, November 19th Cleo and Steve D'Arcy, retired professors who had taught at the University of Illinois and are now teaching courses at Osher Lifelong Learning at Tufts, will share their passion of National Parks with us. Here is what Cleo and Steve say, "One of our retirement goals has been to visit every U.S. National Park. There are 60 of them and we have visited 59. In this talk we will share some of the knowledge and joy that these parks have given us. (And yes, we do have pictures!) The talk will focus on two parks that are relatively close to Massachusetts and two that are quite far away. We will provide some practical information about visiting each park and will discuss the park's history and culture, and significant geological and biological features. Our goal for this talk is to make the participants excited to go "parking," either in person or from their comfy arm-chairs".

Compost, Grow, Eat..... Repeat!

Our October program was well attended for the excellent presentation by the Black Earth Compost. We learned about various methods of composting and which actually has nutrients for your garden! If you missed it or if you would like to learn even more, check their website <https://blackearthcompost.com/>

After the presentation Joanne Wooldridge distributed File of Life handout - a magnetic pocket to stick on the refrigerator to keep all your relevant medical information in case of emergency. Joanne says that EMTs are trained to look at the refrigerator in search of emergency information. If you have not received the packet, it will be available at our next meeting.

As always big thanks to Lynda Hersey for the delectable goodies.

If you missed our grand opening in September and would like to listen to the musical program, here is the link [Video of RNN Program from September 24, 2019](#)

Save The Date – Holiday Open House

Sunday December 15, 2 to 5 pm at the home of Dave Heron and Lynda Hersey. Details to follow in the December Newsletter.

Interest Groups Updates

Film and Arts Group Movie Mondays are the first Monday of the month at the AMC Movie theatre in Danvers - this month on **November 4th**, next month on **December 2nd**. Join us for a movie and discussion over coffee afterward. The movie selection and showtimes are emailed the Wednesday before the event.

The Reading Symphony Orchestra presents "From America, With Love," featuring works from Samuel Barber, Louis Moreau Gottschalk, and Howard Hanson on **Sunday, November 24th at 3:30 pm**. To purchase a ticket, send a check for \$10 to Gina Healy, 65 Johnson Woods Drive, Reading, MA 01867 by **November 5th**.

Koffee Klatch will be held **10:00 – 11:30am** on **Tuesday November 19th**. Join them for friendship, food & fun at Fusion Cafe.

Meditation Group will meet on **Friday, November 1st** and **Friday, November 15th** in the Community Room at the Reading Police Station **from 1:30 - 2:30 pm**.

Hot Topics Interest Group will meet on **Wednesday, November 13th from 3:00 to 5:00 pm** at the home of Ruth and Dan Clark at 7 Hillcrest Road, Reading. The topic for discussion is *Today's Society: What are the impacts of social media, the internet, and technology on democracy?* Please email Tom Mottl (tomottl123@gmail.com) if you'll be joining us for this discussion by Monday, November 4th so we can plan for the number of attendees.

Men's Bridge - This group is organizing to get together bi-monthly to enjoy playing Bridge on Sunday afternoons. If interested contact louiseward27@hotmail.com.

Active Outings Instruction and playing sessions for pickle ball beginners at Memorial Park Tennis Courts on **Fridays at 10:00 am**. Racquets and instruction provided. Cancelled if raining.

Women's Billiard/Ping-Pong will meet on **Tuesday November 12th from 7:00 to 9:00 pm** at Lynda Hersey's home. She has some beverages on hand, but if you have a favorite, please take it along!

Men's Billiard/Ping-Pong will meet on **Wednesdays November 6th and November 20th from 7:00 to 8:30pm**. Join the men for a round of pool! It's fun and you do not need to even know how to play. Email Dave to let him know you are coming. Feel free to bring a drink or a nibble to share.

Foodies- After last month's delicious buffet lunch at China Blossom in North Andover, November's meeting will be held on **Friday November 8th**. The destination will be a surprise announcement by email next week!

Political Discussion Group - is in a reorganizing phase, and hopes to meet next in December.

Travel Group will visit the **RUSSIAN ICON MUSEUM** in Clinton, MA, followed by lunch and discussion. The date will be announced later. There will be two Special Exhibits to view at the Museum:

(See next page for details)



Nuts About Nutcrackers

On view: November 15, 2019 – March 8, 2020

The Museum is pleased to present a mini-exhibition of nutcrackers this holiday season. The bulk of the exhibit is on loan from the Leavenworth Nutcracker Museum in Leavenworth, Washington.



Emil Hoppe: Photographs from the Ballets Russes

On view: November 15, 2019 – March 8, 2020

Curated by John Bowlt and Graham Howe

In the 1920s and 30s Emil Otto Hoppé (British, German-born, 1878–1972) was one of the most sought-after photographers in the world. Hoppé's studio in South Kensington was a magnet for the rich and famous, and for years he actively led the global art scene on both sides of the Atlantic, making over thirty photographically-

illustrated books, and establishing himself as a pioneering figure in photographic art.

Membership

Welcome new members: Susan Lederer, Lynda Stroeble, Don Stroeble and Cheryl Briere! Susan will participate in Film/Arts, Koffee Klatch and Foodies. Don & Lynda both signed up for Active Outings, Film/Arts, HotTopics, Meditation, and Lend-a- Hand/ProvideRide and Help Homebound. In addition Don signed up for Mens' Bridge and Mens' Billiards, and Lynda for Women's Billiards. Cheryl Briere signed up for Lend-a-Hand/Help Around the House with no Interest Groups.

Important Reminder about Medicare:

Open Enrollment dates for Medicare are October 15th through December 7th. SHINE counseling is available by the appointment at the Pleasant Street Center. Medicare has significantly updated the Medicare.gov website and now asks Medicare enrollees to create an account to be able to log in. If you need SHINE assistance you are advised to do this prior to your appointment. Also, you should have a list of your current medications printed out by your pharmacy or by your MDs office.

Lend a Hand or Recommend

Members support one another with the **one time/occasional** help. Do not hesitate to ask if you need help. Those of us who did were delighted with the kind response and connections we made. To send your request contact:

*Rob Ward Text or call 781-864-1257 or

*Libby Woods(galligel@bc.edu) Call 781-944-2331

They always seem to get multiple volunteers really fast!

Some jobs are bigger than other RNN members can help you with, like ladder work, construction, snow plowing, etc. You may need a Contractor, Painter, Stone Mason or Handy person. If you would like to ask the RNN membership for recommendations and experiences with contracted workers, send an email to:

ReadingNN@GoogleGroups.com and ask people to reply only to you, not "Reply All".

Members who have had great or terrible experiences can email you directly to let you know the details and current contact information. Perhaps they will share insights about costs and little details such as whether the worker is a smoker or cleans up really well every day.

To find more information on our own town/community affairs go here:

<https://www.readingma.gov/metro-north-regional-housing-services-office/pages/your-community-connection>

Of particular interest may be Reading Art Association Autumn Art Exhibit and Sale held on November 1-3.



Pictures from our October activities



Twist gallery



twist gallery owner explaining staging



Brunch at the museum cafe



Museum tour with a docent



the gift of song at the museum courtyard