

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Newsletter

December 2011



December

2: Board Meeting 1pm

**5: Final Lecture--
POSTPONED to March 6,
2012.** Our apologies.

**7: Dessert, Coffee and More!
OLL I Players Presentation at
1:30** at the Mary Graydon
Center. Free of Charge.
Please RSVP to
OLL I@american.edu to let us
know you are joining us.

Spring Semester

Keep your eyes open for the
Spring catalog which should be
in the mail in early January.
Be sure to get your
registrations in before the
**registration assignment day,
February 7, 2012.** Classes will
begin on Feb. 27 and end in
early May.

Big History Continuation

**1491: New Revelations of
the Americas Before
Columbus** (Mann, Charles
C.; Paperback; \$11.53)
describes recent
archeological findings dated
up to 40,000 BCE,
contradicting the present
views about early Americas.
At the request of several

Letter from the Board Chair

Our Fall Semester is about to end and I always feel
a little sad about it until the January lectures begin.
Our last hurrah is the OLL I holiday party on
December 7 at Mary Graydon Center at 1:30 pm,
when we will get together just for fun and to kick off
the holiday season. Do come and see the OLL I
players and join us for dessert. This is a free event, **but you must
RSVP to olli@american.edu.**



This fall has resulted in remarkable growth for OLL I. We surmise it is
perhaps partly due to the high quality of what we offer and partly due
to the Baby Boom generation coming of age. For whatever reason, we
welcome the 160 new members that who joined us this fall. Many
thanks to the Study Group Leaders and Representatives, our office
staff, and the many other volunteers that make OLL I at AU so
successful. A special thanks to Martha Horne for organizing another
spectacular lecture series. The list of the January Lecture series is
[online](#).

During this past semester Board members have frequently been asked
three questions about space. I'll answer the questions as best I can.

**No, we don't have a final decision from the Temple Baptist Church
Council about reconsidering and extending our lease, although we are
in the midst of discussions with them.*

**Yes, we expect that in the future AU will accommodate our space
needs on or near the campus.*

**Yes, we are still searching for interim space.*

You received a letter from me recently asking that you donate to the
OLL I Future Fund so that we can be prepared for the uncertainty in

participants in this falls "Big History" class, SGL Rene Springuel will direct discussions on this book every Wednesday at 10-12 pm at Capital Hall on the AU Tenley Campus from January 18 to February 22, 2012 (6 sessions). In addition to the participants from "Big History", other OLLI members will also be welcomed (Maximum 25 participants). Please call Demaris Carroll at 202.686.6277 or demaris@carroll@yahoo.com before January 10, 2012.

Thanks!

Many thanks to our group of mailers led by Jaleh Labib and including: Patricia Brock, Penny English, Earl Hall, Joyce Johnson, and Mary Alice Stotlemeyer.

Condolences

We are saddened by the loss of OLLI member, Christina Steinman.

VOA Coordinator

Anyone interested in being the Coordinator for the Voice of America Class in the spring? We need someone to be the point person for the speaker series. If you are interested, call the office at 202.895.4860.

Food Bank

providing space. We don't know yet if our costs will increase in the near term, nor what is the long term picture. **It is not too late to make your tax deductible donation.**

Remember to sign up for OLLI Shorts, February 6 to 12, by December 14. If you did not receive the Shorts feel free to [download](#) a copy here.

Have a happy, healthy holiday season.

--Bob Goodman, Board Chair

Nomination & Election Committee

The Board of Directors has appointed the following members to the Nominations and Elections Committee: Bob Coe, Tessa Dinsmore, Penny English, Natalie Muiltz and Carl Rappaport.

This Committee will select six nominees for four vacancies on the Board for the 2012 election. The Board consists of 12 members elected for three year terms, four members being elected each year.

The Committee will make its selection in accordance with the OLLI Policies and Procedures, completely independent of the current Board, in consultation with one another and with emphasis on the background and experience of each potential nominee.

Members who would like to volunteer either themselves or a colleague as a possible candidate may submit a special form to the Committee. Forms will be posted on the bulletin board at the Temple Baptist Church and copies are available in the office. The elections will be held at the Annual Meeting in May. Photos and biographical data of all candidates will be posted in early April and mailed to every member prior to the election.

Feedback Forms

If you would like to provide some feedback for a study group, but didn't get the opportunity, please download [a form](#) and send it in to us. Many thanks!

Congratulations OLLI! We collected 523 lbs. of food and raised \$1100 for the Food Bank (including a very generous donation from Edith Wyss and her class.)

Summer 2012 Trip: Italy

An Insider's Tour for OLLI members and friends to the Amalfi Coast Music & Arts Festival, July 17-25, 2012

Cost: \$3,475 (airfare not included). Space limited- register soon. Put together by OLLI member Mike Daniels and the Festival organizers.

[To register and for more details click here](#)

Contact: music@amalfi-festival.org or 301.587.6189.

Summer 2012 Trip: London

Sign up soon for an OLLI trip to London from June 9-15. While the tour is based in the capital city, it offers these options, led by Gina Guglielmo:

- A Shakespeare Play at the rebuilt Globe Theatre
- A Day Trip to nearby Rochester, site of Dickens' Home, Gad's Hill, and other settings for his novels

Art Show

Please stop and see the work from the two art classes this semester-- Collage and Drawing-- at the Coffee, Dessert and Performance on Wednesday, December 7 at the Mary Graydon Center. Last Chance to RSVP for this event: OLLI@american.edu or call 202.895.4860.

Spring Study Group Leader Training Sessions

Please [email](#) or call the office 202.895.4860 if you are interested in participating in the February Study Group Leader (SGL) Training sessions. Seasoned and new SGLs have found these four morning sessions to be useful and interesting. They will be coordinated by Selma Rosenthal and are scheduled for February 14, 16, 21, and 23 from 10-11:50 am.

Much Depends On Dinner Book Discussion Group

What: A five-session discussion of Margaret Visser's *Much Depends on Dinner* (available in paper), her "extraordinary story" of the elements of an "ordinary" dinner. She explores the "weird, passionate history" of corn, butter, salt, rice, among other basic foods.

For more commentary on this book, see the [Amazon link](#).

When: Five Wednesdays, 3:00-4:30 pm, January 25-February 22.

Where: Soho Tea and Coffee, 2150 P Street, N.W. Soho is a short walk from Dupont Circle and close to the Dupont Circle Metro. Leader: Joel Denker, a food writer and veteran teacher (including OLLI groups), is the author, among other books, of *Capital Flavors: Washington's Ethnic Restaurants* and *The World on a Plate: A Tour through The History of America's Ethnic Cuisine*.

Format: Each session will be an examination of selected chapters of the book (approximately fifty pages). Participants will share their reactions and observations gained from close reading of Visser. The role of the leader will be to help guide and stimulate discussion, not to summarize the reading or to lecture. If interested, please contact Joel Denker, 202.483.3137, or denker@starpower.net at your earliest convenience.

- A Day Trip to Chawton where Jane Austen lived and wrote

Go Ahead, the Tour Company, also offers several Optional Tours from London, including day trips to Windsor, Bath, Stonehenge, Stratford and The Cotswolds

Cost: \$2,500 (including airfare from Dulles, double-occupancy accommodation, hotel breakfasts, and transportation). \$300 deposit required, balance due March 2012.

Check out the trip at

<http://ginaguglielmo.grouptoursite.com>

or contact Gina at

ginargug@yahoo.com

or 202.965.4845 for additional information. A meeting for interested travelers will be held early in February.

Quick Links

[OLLI Website](#)

[American University Website](#)

[AU Library Classes Website](#)

[AU Community Relations Website](#)

4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW Washington, DC 20016

Tel: 202.895.4860 Email: OLLI@american.edu

Website: www.OLLI-DC.org

Bob Goodman, Board Chair/ Anne Wallace, Executive Director

Lena Frumin, Program Manager/Helen Schwartz, Newsletter Editor