



*Where Curiosity Never Retires*



## MARCH 15, 2019 OLLI NEWS

### **Adding a Fourth Class**

We've made it through the first two weeks of classes! We hope you are enjoying them so far. **Now that we are approaching the third week, you may add a fourth study group to your schedule, if it is still open.** You'll find the open/closed status of all study groups in the right column of the page when you go to *View All Spring 2019 Study Groups*. **If you would like to add a fourth study group, please [email](#) or call the office at 202-895-4860.**

**Today is the last day to request a refund.** However, you may still drop a study group after today.

### **OLLI Member Seeking Assistance**

Long-time member and Study Group Leader, Bob Coe, is looking for transportation assistance in getting to and from OLLI to attend his classes. **He is signed up for classes on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, each at 11:45 AM - 1:15 PM.** If you are interested in helping Bob with transportation to OLLI, please contact him at 301-320-5083 or by e-mail at [bobcoe7@gmail.com](mailto:bobcoe7@gmail.com). Thank you for any help you can provide!

### **Free Minds Book Club: Write Lunch**

On **Tuesday, April 16, from 11:45 AM to 1:15 PM**, OLLI and the Free Minds Book Club & Writing Workshop will co-sponsor our fifth "Write Lunch", led by Jenny Pierson and Ellen Siegler. **The Write Lunch will take place in Room 2 on the 5th floor of 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW.** Participants are welcome to bring a bagged lunch to the event.

Free Minds conducts literacy programs, including poetry classes, for incarcerated youth in DC. They will provide us with a packet of poems written by incarcerated young men for us to read and to provide comments.

**We are seeking a community of 20-25 OLLI members who will give the youth's poetry encouraging comments.** Providing feedback on these poems is an enjoyable community activity and a great way to show these youth that others respect their work and appreciate their dedication. **A few men who have participated in and benefited from this program will be with us to share their experiences** in the program and express their appreciation. If you have questions, contact Jenny Pierson at [piersonjen17@gmail.com](mailto:piersonjen17@gmail.com) or 202-248-8288.

Please click [here](#) to register for this event.

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## Lead a June Mini or July Short



**OLLI is now accepting study group proposals for both upcoming summer sessions.** This year, the **June Minis are June 3-28** and the **July Shorts are July 15-19**. June Minis meet once a week for 4 weeks and July Shorts meet 3-5 times over the course of one week. **We welcome proposals from both new and veteran study group leaders.**

For more information about being a study group leader at OLLI, please visit the [Become A Study Group Leader](#) page. If you or someone you know is interested in leading a study group and would like to speak with someone, please e-mail [olli@american.edu](mailto:olli@american.edu) with your contact information and we will get in touch with you.

**To propose a study group, please click one of the links below.** You will be prompted to login with your OLLI username/password or create an account if it's your first time. **The proposal deadline for both sessions is April 15.**

[June Minis 2019 Proposal Form](#)

[July Shorts 2019 Proposal Form](#)

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## Beloved OLLI Study Group Leader Passes Away

It is with great sadness that we inform you that a former OLLI member and Study Group Leader, **Richard Dunnells**, died last Wednesday, March 6. His family asks that those who would like to honor Richard make a donation to the American Red Cross on his behalf. The American Red Cross provides services to the Armed Forces throughout the world, and supplies approximately 60% of the blood in the National Capital Region, some of which was used during Richard's recent hospitalization. To donate, you can access the link [here](#). On the donation page, check "Dedicate this gift to a friend of a loved one," and specify G. Richard Dunnells.

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## Spring Flower Show Trip

**We are pleased that the recent OLLI trip to Philadelphia, PA for the annual Flower**

**Show Convention was a success.** Even though the trip took place on the second-to-last day, all the flowers were fresh and the organizers and exhibitionists managed to touch up the displays during the course of the show's ten-day run. Thank you to Jeffrey Porter for organizing the trip and to Judy Havemann for coordinating the group that day! Here are a couple of pictures that Bob Kolodney took while on the trip:



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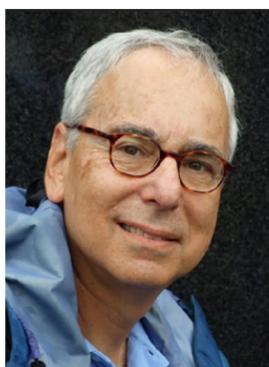
## **Update on Election of Board Members**

Under the OLLI by-laws (revised in 2018), the Committee on Nominations and Elections, after consulting with and inviting recommendations from OLLI members in general, has developed a list of four candidates to fill the four open Board positions. The Committee believes these candidates have amply demonstrated the skills, experience, background and energy needed for the important work of the Board. The list, which the Board has approved, will appear on the ballot for the election that

begins in late April. The Committee would like to thank all those OLLI members who provided the many excellent recommendations for Committee consideration.



**Myra Barron.** Myra is a current Board member seeking a second term. She is on the Executive Committee and co-chairs the AU Relationship Committee. Previously she has served as Board Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Personnel Committee Chair. A lawyer by profession, she has worked in both the public sector — with stints as Assistant County Attorney and as Counsel to the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority — and in the private sector, where she specialized in affordable housing and represented non-profits in business and related matters. She has degrees from Smith (BA), Johns Hopkins (MA), and Georgetown (JD).



**Mark Nadel.** Mark joined OLLI in 2012 and since then has taught several different courses on public policy. He is currently on the Curriculum Committee and has helped in the orientation of new SGLs. Previously, he taught political science at Cornell before joining the Government Accountability Office. He ended his federal career as an Associate Commissioner of Social Security. Since retiring, he has taught public policy at Georgetown and was a senior fellow at Georgetown's Government Affairs Institute. He has degrees from California (BA) and Johns Hopkins (PhD).



**Linda Kiser.** Currently a member of the Development Committee, Linda has been an OLLI member since 2012. She has extensive development experience, having spent many years as Director of Development in several local private schools and having served on various school and non-profit Boards as Chair/member of development committees. Prior to that, she had several years of public service, working with both the U.S. House and the Senate and for the Carter Administration. She currently serves as a tutor at The Academy of Hope, a charter school for adults working to get their GED.



**John Aldock.** John joined OLLI two years ago after retiring as General Counsel of Goodwin Proctor LLP, an international law firm. He has served on the OLLI Finance Committee and assisted the OLLI Chair in negotiations with AU over space in our new building and the OLLI endowment. He previously served as Assistant U.S. Attorney for D.C., Chair of the Shea and Gardner law firm, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Rules of the U.S. District Court for D.C. and for many years as a member of the Board of the Legal Clinic for the Homeless.

### **Next Steps**

**April 8.** Members interested in being placed on the ballot as at-large candidates can do so by filing a self-nomination petition supported by the signatures of 10 OLLI members. Candidates meeting the 10-member signature requirement will automatically appear on the ballot. The deadline for submitting at-large petitions is April 8. As part of the petition, candidates should provide a photo (a smartphone photo will be fine) and a brief bio of no more than 100 words. Interested candidates should contact the Office for the petition form and other details.

**April 26.** OLLI annual meeting. Candidates will be allowed 2-3 minutes to introduce themselves.

**April 26 - May 10.** The election takes place online.

**May 13.** The results are announced.

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## **National Education Association Retirement Organization (NEARO)**

Tony Long, OLLI's Executive Director, and John Thorner, OLLI Board member, were invited by OLLI member Joel Packer to speak to the National Education Association Retirement Organization (NEARO) last week. They appreciated the opportunity to introduce OLLI at AU and its programming to the enthusiastic NEARO attendees. Tony also wrote an article to introduce OLLI and the Osher Foundation to the national NEARO network. We thank Joel for making both of these opportunities happen.

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## **Student Essay Contest: Climate Change**

Recently, *The Washington Post* included an article about Alexandria Villasenor, a 7th grader who has been sitting outside of the UN Headquarters for weeks with signs asking adults to do something serious about climate change. The article talks about other young people's activities and a global strike they are organizing to demand action. **OLLI member Ron Ridker is a member of an organization called *Global Peace Service-USA* that has decided to start an essay contest for high school and middle school students to write about their feelings about climate change and what they would like to see done about it.** A committee of experts will judge the essays and prizes will be given out. Ron is asking for help with this program, which will include contacting school teachers to encourage them to enter the

contest, raise funds for prizes, and other ideas about how to run the contest. **If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Ron at 202-321-0367, or by e-mail at [rriidker@gmail.com](mailto:rriidker@gmail.com).**

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## **Warning from the Social Security Administration**

*The Social Security Administration asked various organizations to share this message:*

We have become aware of reports of fraudulent telephone calls from individuals claiming to represent the Social Security Administration (SSA). In them, unknown callers are using threatening language to warn unknowing victims that they will be arrested or face other legal action if they fail to call a provided phone number or press the number indicated in the message to address the issue. In some instances, these unknown callers switch tactics and communicate that they want to help an individual with activating a suspended Social Security number. **Such calls are a scam, and are not coming from official SSA representatives.**

Social Security is committed to protecting the privacy and security of the people we serve. SSA states that no one should engage with such callers, and to report any suspicious calls to Social Security's Office of the Inspector General **by calling 1-800-269-0271** or **[submitting a report on the OIG website](#)**. SSA also urges you to read and share our **[Social Security Matters blog](#)**, which provides more information on the nature of these fraudulent calls, as well as instructions on how to report such activity.

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## **Volunteer Judges Needed for DC's National History Day**

DC's National History Day program that is run through the National Archives is looking for volunteers to judge this year's competition that will take place Wednesday, April 10 (middle school division) and Thursday, April 11 (high school division). If you enjoy talking with teenagers and are interested in history -- we would be delighted to have you join us as judges for one or both of these days. Training on how to be an NHD judge will be provided.

For more information about National History Day please check out their Web site at **<https://www.nhd.org/>**. If you are interested please contact Elly Greene, at **[elly.greene@verizon.net](mailto:elly.greene@verizon.net)**.

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## **Upcoming Events at American University**

**NOTE:** For any AU-specific event, **please contact the sponsoring department directly.**

***"Golda Meir: A Life in Politics" with Francine Klagsbrun, Amos Perlmutter Memorial Lecture***

**Tuesday, March 19, 7:00 - 8:30 PM**

**AU East Campus Constitution Hall**

**Free with [RSVP](#)**

Author Francine Klagsbrun will discuss Golda Meir and her legacy. Klagsbrun's book, *Lioness: Golda Meir and the Nation of Israel*, a biography of the fourth prime minister of Israel, won the 2017 Jewish National Book Award. Klagsbrun is a celebrated author of more than a dozen books and

countless articles in national publications. Moderated by Pamela Nadell, Patrick Clendenen Chair in Women's and Gender History.

***"Women and Israeli Politics Today"***

**Tuesday, March 26, 5:30 PM**

**Abramson Family Recital Hall at the Katzen Arts Center**

**Free with RSVP: <http://tinyurl.com/WomenandIsraeliPoliticsToday>**

Former Israeli Member of Knesset and public intellectual Einat Wilf will offer remarks on *"Women and Politics in Israel Today,"* followed by a discussion with moderator Tamara Wittes (Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution). Co-sponsored by Center for Israel Studies and Women and Politics Institute, School of Public Affairs. Questions: 202-885-3780.

**METROPOLITAN POLICY CENTER, AU SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

**Derek Hyra: Gentrification and the Great Recession**

**Wednesday, March 27, 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM**

**East Quad Building, Room 103**

The Metropolitan Policy Center (MPC) is proud to announce its next Urban Speaker Series event with Derek Hyra, Director of the Metropolitan Policy Center and Associate Professor in the School of Public Affairs at American University. He will present a talk entitled "Gentrification and the Great Recession." Refreshments will be provided. To RSVP, click [here](#).

**2019 MPC Annual Spring Lecture: Robert Sampson**

**"Urban Neighborhoods and American Life"**

**Wednesday, April 3, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

**SIS Founders Room**

The Metropolitan Policy Center (MPC) is pleased to announce its fifth Annual Spring Lecture. Robert J. Sampson of Harvard University will deliver our keynote lecture. His talk is entitled *"Urban Neighborhoods and American Life."* Robert J. Sampson is the Henry Ford II Professor of the Social Sciences at Harvard University, founding director of the Boston Area Research Initiative, and Affiliated Research Professor at the American Bar Foundation. A reception will follow the lecture. To RSVP, click [here](#).

**OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY**

**Our Mission**

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at American University is an association of, by, and for the people in the Washington, DC area who wish to continue to study and learn. OLLI at AU is dedicated to the proposition that learning is a lifelong process and that curiosity never retires.

Website [www.lli-dc.org](http://www.lli-dc.org) | Phone **202-895-4860** | E-mail [lli@american.edu](mailto:lli@american.edu)

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**Mailing Address** 4400 Massachusetts Ave NW | Washington, DC 20016

Tony Long, *Executive Director* / Mary Fran Miklitsch, *Director of Planning*

Lesley Diaz, *Academic Programs Coordinator*

Jesse Williams, *Operations Coordinator*

Terri Greene, *Administrative Coordinator*

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