

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Newsletter

March 2014 Newsletter



OLL I

at American University Washington DC



Our Condolences

go out to the family and friends of **Art LeVan** who died in early February.

Dropping or Adding Study Groups

Members can add or drop study groups directly on the website. Login, then go to Register for Study Groups under "Study Groups" in the main menu. The screen will display your registration record. You can add or drop classes on this page.

Check the Website

For any important information, including closings due to weather, please check the website at olli-dc.org.

Spam & Hacking

Letter from the Board Chair, Phil Schwartz



DO YOU WANT TO TRY SOMETHING NEW?

There is a new way for you to expand your lifelong learning experience. OLLI is offering a four week on-line discussion group with Susan Willens as its Study Group Leader. There will be no charge for participating this semester. This discussion group is an adaptation of the two regular study groups that Susan will be leading this semester. The four essays to be discussed online (one each week) are in the text, *The Best American Essays 2013*, by Robert Atwan and Cheryl Strayed, published by Houghton Mifflin.

Susan has posted introductory comments and questions concerning the first essay, "Night," by Alice Munro, on the OLLI discussion group website. If you wish to participate, you may register by emailing the OLLI office. Once your account is setup, you can access the online discussion group from the OLLI website under the STUDY GROUPS tab. You will then be able to post comments either in response to Susan's remarks, in response to other members' remarks or with your own thoughts related to the reading. Registered members may contribute whenever they wish during the time a new essay will be up for discussion and may be read throughout the semester.

Discussions for the four essays will follow the schedule below:

"Night" - March 3 - March 16

"Confessions of an Ex-Mormon" - March 17 - March 30

"Some Notes on Attunement" - March 31 - April 6

"Ghost Estates" - April 7 - 14

Susan will read and comment on the online conversation for each essay. No special equipment is needed, only a computer with internet access.

OLL I hopes that this online process will work well. It can be improved and expanded. Using this format, OLLI will be able to accommodate more members in discussion groups than the traditional classroom.

Thanks to John Bowen for this reminder: When e-mailing a group, don't put all the individual addresses in the "To" line. Instead, put them in the "Bcc" line, and only your own address in the "To" line.

I have registered for this course. I am interested in the essay as a means of passing along information. I hope you will also consider taking this course as we continue to extend new programs to OLLI members.

Have a great semester.

Phil Schwartz
Chair of the OLLI Board of Directors

Did you know?

You can click on underlined text in this newsletter and it will take you to a website or open an email. Underlined text like this is called a "link."

Spring Lecture Series

Tuesday, March 11

Danilo Trisi, *The War on Poverty at 50: Large Positive Impact, But More Work Remains*

Danilo Trisi will provide an assessment of poverty trends over the last 50 years, explaining the factors that have led to declines in poverty as well as the demographic and economic shifts that have kept poverty higher than it might otherwise have been. He also will discuss the role of the safety net in reducing poverty, the many challenges that remain, and policy areas where further progress can be made.

Danilo Trisi is a Research Analyst at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, one of the nation's premier policy organizations working at the federal and state levels on fiscal policy and public programs that affect low- and moderate-income families and individuals.

April Trip to Winterthur

Join other OLLI members for a tour of the **Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library, including entry to the Costumes of Downton Abbey exhibit.** The tour includes Garden Tram, weather permitting.

The cost is \$60 which includes the bus, entrance fee, and Downton Abbey exhibit. There is a cafeteria-style restaurant at the Winterthur Visitor Center. There is a limit on how many attendees we can accommodate, so register now!!

Look for fliers at OLLI sites in the upcoming week.

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Phil Schwartz, *Board Chair* / Anne Wallace, *Executive Director*

