

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

August 2015 Newsletter



OLLII

at American University Washington DC



Summer Office Hours

The OLLI office, which is located at 4000 Brandywine St. NW, will be open from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm this summer.

Thank You to ...

... **Carol Light** for the donation of her class gift.

Nationals Baseball Tickets

For the sixth year, Stan Cohen has generously donated Washington Nationals' baseball tickets to OLLI members. Of the 10 tickets donated, five tickets remain. The tickets are for Wednesday, August 26, 2015 at 7:05 PM against the San Diego Padres. If interested, please contact the office. Tickets will be given out to the first five requests.

Catalog Updates

Letter from the Chair



The days are growing shorter, our TVs are filled with back-to-school ads, and the new OLLI catalog is in the mailbox. It's time to plan our next semester of stimulating courses, shared with others a lot like ourselves ... older, wiser, and constantly broadening our horizons.

The Fall 2015 catalog is a wonder. Over 90 courses will pique your curiosity and engage your mind. The difficulty is in selecting from this embarrassment of riches, a very pleasant problem indeed. Registration is now open, and a cinch to complete online, or by mail. The lottery will work its wonders on August 31, and assignments will be emailed by September 2.

Our plans for residence in a new home have been delayed, from spring to fall of 2016. Many of us who are impatient for change must face the realities of possibilities and priorities. Be assured that change will come, without compromise of our cherished OLLI experience.

See you in September!

Gloria Kreisman
Chair, Board of Directors

Stan Asrael: A Well-Rounded OLLI Member

Stan Asrael, born and bred in DC, is a man of wide interests and experience.

After college, he served in the constabulary force in Europe. There his family background and his military career came into conflict. The son of a former professional musician, as a child he had refused his father's offer of learning to play a musical instrument saying that he preferred playing baseball. On a free Saturday afternoon while stationed in Germany, he took advantage of the chance to see his first opera. The next Monday on reporting to duty, his commanding officer wanted to know where he had been on Saturday afternoon because "I needed you

Please check the following link for any updates to the catalog: [Catalog Updates](#)

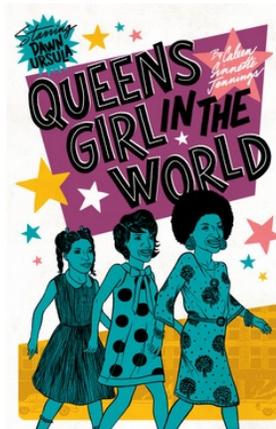
in right field."

He has maintained his interest in the arts and athletics, combining an active outdoor life of sailing, hiking, and tennis well into retirement with attending classical music, opera, and ballet performances, lectures on various subjects, and collecting fine crafts through his membership in the Renwick Museum Alliance. The Alliance encourages studio craft artists and provides them patronage. Stan and his deceased wife, Evelyn, collected crafts which include turned wood, ceramics, studio glass, and fiber art, as well as paintings.

After military service, Stan joined a business collecting and processing metals for use by steel mills and foundries. In 1970 he became the sole owner of Alexandria Scrap Corp. Active in the industry's trade matters, he was several times part of a group testifying before Congress. At one point, he was president of one of the three national trade associations representing scrap dealers. A case on scrap autos he brought against the state of Maryland went to the U.S. Supreme Court and is the subject of a chapter in Bob Woodward's *The Brethren*.

Retirement meant he finally could fully engage his wide-ranging curiosity, taking classes in philosophy, literature, current events, Spanish, and German. At OLLI, he has participated in the volunteer work that makes OLLI successful, serving as a class representative, working on the curriculum and nominating committees, and twice coordinating the Middle East Institute lecture series. And he has given generously to OLLI's Future Fund in gratitude for OLLI's role in "affording me a vehicle for intellectual exercise, growth, and socialization."

World Premiere by AU Professor & OLLI Lecturer Caleen Sinnette Jennings



Last year, AU Professor and local playwright Caleen Jennings presented excerpts of her autobiographical play and other work at a well-received OLLI lecture. Her play, entitled "Queens Girl in the World" opens at Theater J on September 21 and runs through October 11. The play takes place in 1962 in Queens, NY, where 12-year-old Jacqueline Marie Butler begins her journey into adulthood. When Jacqueline's parents abruptly transfer her to a progressive school in Greenwich Village where she is one of only four black students, her world expands dramatically, as Jennings describes in this touching, funny play.

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