



## Letter from the Board Chair



Most of this semester's classes have concluded, but our intersession activities are on the horizon.

Reservations, at \$25, are still available for our [Holiday Party](#) on December 15, an opportunity to share a glass or two of wine, and enjoy abundant hors d'oeuvres, in a gala atmosphere. Join your friends from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

Mark your calendars for the ever-popular January Lecture Series, which starts on January 5th, and runs through the 28th, every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Lectures are free and open to the public, so bring your friends. The full schedule will be posted on the OLLI website next week.

You'll soon be receiving information about our popular OLLI Shorts, during which intriguing courses are compressed into a single week, February 1-5. A brochure with full information will be mailed "shortly" (pause for groans).

An exciting, redesigned, Spring Catalog is being prepared. You should receive it around year's end (or year's beginning, depending on your point of view). Thank you, Mary Fran Miklitsch, for the new look, and thank you, Chair Naomi Heller and the Curriculum Committee, for outstanding offerings.

For OLLI, this has been a year to remember. As it draws to a close, and as we look forward to the great promise of 2016, I wish you happiness, good health, and joyful holidays.

Gloria Kreisman  
*Chair, OLLI Board of Directors*

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## Lucretius Online

“The Nature of Things” (*De Rerum Natura*) by the Roman poet Titus Lucretius Carus is one of the fundamental documents of the Renaissance. The story of the discovery in 1417 of the only surviving manuscript of the poem was told by Stephen Greenblatt in his National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning work *The Swerve: How the World Became Modern*.

In six “books,” the didactic poem expounds the views of the Greek philosopher Epicurus and provides us with the most complete statement of that philosophy that has survived. Multiple English translations exist. One of the latest, by the American poet A.E. Stallings, is in iambic heptameter (14 syllables to the line) with rhyming couplets.

OLLI will offer an online discussion of “The Nature of Things,” using the Stallings’s translation, beginning in early January. One book will be covered each week. For details contact [Tony Long](mailto:tlong@american.edu) (tlong@american.edu) or [Dave Palmeter](mailto:dpalmer@comcast.net) (dpalmer@comcast.net).

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## American Visionary Art Museum Trip

From Alice Weinstein, Trip Coordinator, "It was a wonderful day. We had a terrific docent who led us through the museum for 1-1/2 hours which was insightful and exhausting. Some people, me included, ate in the restaurant, in spite of bringing bag lunches. It is possible to eat modestly there, which was not the impression I had from their website. We met mirror artist Bob Benson who runs workshops at the museum as well as from his home. Our visit ended at an exhibit of mechanical sculptures with witty titles. You had to push a button to activate the sculpture so we were like children hurrying on to push

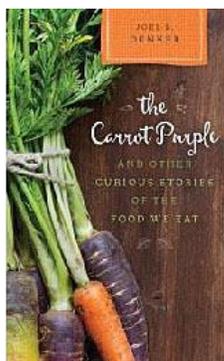
the next button to see what would happen. By the time we were finished it was time to board the van which we did smiling and laughing."

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## Many Thanks

Indeed many hands does make light work. With the help of Ben Boley, Sue Boley, Stephanie Brandes, Paul Brown, Susan Byrnes, Asimina Caminis, Di Elkin, Penny English, Bruce Forrest, Leslie Forrest, Jacquie Gallagher, Alice Goodman, Henry Guyot, Ange Hassinger, Carol Hausman, Bob Hausman, Jeanne Kent, Linda Kiser, Gloria Kreisman, Elizabeth Lee, Natalie Multz, Ellen Myerberg, Jim Myerberg, Lois Neuman, Janet Platt, Kristin Ruckdeschel, Donna Scriven, Stanley Talpers, and Nancy Wiederhorn, the annual fundraising appeal was stuffed, sealed, labeled, and stamped in record time.

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## OLLI Author Joel Denker

OLLI member and author Joel Denker will read from and sign copies of his new book, *The Carrot Purple and Other Curious Stories of the Food We Eat*. For more about *The Carrot Purple*, go to [foodpassages.com](http://foodpassages.com).

Thursday, December 3rd, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Glen's Garden Market, 2001 S Street, N.W.

(short walk from Dupont Circle Metro; entrance on 20th St.)

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