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Board Candidates



ISSUE DATE: Friday, April 6, 2007

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REMINDERS

- > **MINI TOWN MEETING**, Fri, Apr 13, 12:00-1:30, Tallwood. [Read more.](#)
- > **TRIP TALES WANTED FOR FALL TERM.** See this [notice](#).

ARTICLES AND NOTICES

- > **ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE:** Important details. *By Carol Henderson*
- > **THE GREATEST GENERATION.** About OLLI's WW II veterans. *By Barbara Kyriakakis*
- > **WANTED: A FEW GOOD READERS.** The OLLI Book Club. *By Elizabeth Crawford*

DEPARTMENTS

- > **PROFILE.** Renaissance man Jack Underhill. *By Arleen Richman*
- > **CENTER FOR THE ARTS.** Upcoming arts and music events at Mason. *By Jan Bohall*
- > **MASON HIGHLIGHTS.** Other events at nearby Mason. *By Barbara Kyriakakis*
- > **COMING ATTRACTIONS.** Upcoming OLLI non-class events for the next two weeks.

NOTICE OF OLLI ANNUAL MEETING

Fri, May 4, 10:00, at Tallwood



By Carol Henderson, Secretary

THE OLLI ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING will be held on Fri, May 4, at 10:00 at Tallwood, with the following agenda:

- Reports from president Debbie Halverson and executive director Dick Chobot on the state of the Institute; and
- Brief speeches by the candidates for election to the Board and opportunity to ask questions of the candidates, moderated by Nominating Committee chair Richard Lanterman.

Each OLLI member will receive by mail a ballot and an addressed envelope marked **BALLOT ENCLOSED**. Use this ballot to vote for up to six candidates; you may mail the ballot to OLLI or drop it in a ballot box at Tallwood or Reston. Since you do not sign the ballot or return envelope, your vote remains completely anonymous.

To be counted, all ballots must be received by noon on Fri, May 18.

Do not lose your ballot: No member having lost, damaged or destroyed his/her mailed ballot may receive a second ballot. Making more than six choices will invalidate your ballot. Similarly, more than one ballot per envelope, any ballot not in the furnished **BALLOT ENCLOSED** envelope, or not received by May 18 will be invalid.

If you have questions about the election process, contact any Nominating Committee member: Florence Adler; Eileen Duggan; Richard Lanterman; Leo Brennan; Abbie Edwards; Ted Parker.

Editor's Note. Yesterday you should have received the above notice as an email from the office; we are publishing the same notice above to help ensure that everyone reads it. Photos and statements/biographies of each of the candidates may be viewed on the [What's New page](#) of the OLLI Website; you may use that Web page for ready reference to candidate information during this election season.

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THE GREATEST GENERATION

Seventh in our WW II veterans series



By Barbara Kyriakakis, OLLI E-News assistant editor

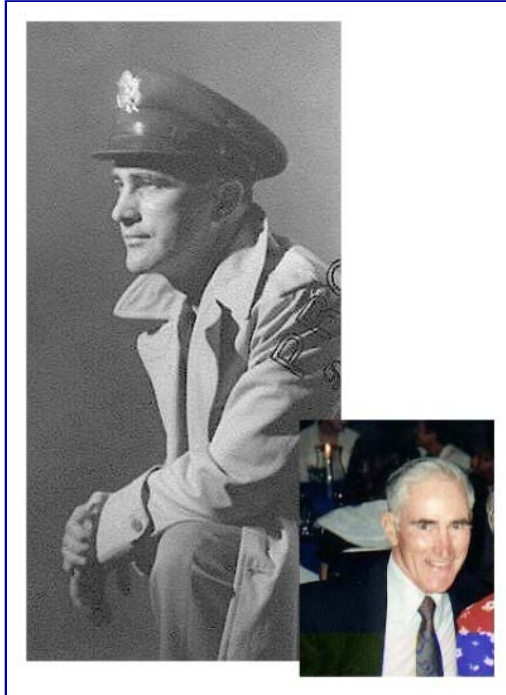
IN 1944 AT AGE SEVENTEEN, AL SMITH

enlisted in the Army and attended a challenging nine-month engineering program (ASTRP: Army Specialized Training Reserve Program) at Princeton. Subsequently, he completed infantry basic training at Ft. McClellan, Alabama, where, oddly, half the men were eighteen years old and the other half over thirty-five.

While he trained for the invasion of the Japanese mainland, the A-bombs fell on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, leading to Japan's surrender. Although Al spent 21 months on active duty, including a year in Japan with the 98th and 25th Infantry Divisions where he worked in regimental supply and in the Adjutant General's Office, he did not see combat action. He was discharged in early 1947 as a sergeant.

Al remembers that because of the high casualty rates during the Battle of the Bulge, American mothers put pressure on Congress to ban sending ill-equipped and ill-trained servicemen into that battle. Apparently, the protest did slow the sending of the young infantry replacements.

Al graduated from St. John's University in New York City on a New York State veteran's scholarship. He also graduated from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service where he was commissioned as an Army reserve officer via ROTC; Al retired as a colonel after 30 years' reserve service with the



352nd Civil Affairs unit.

Recruited at Georgetown University for the CIA, he served 10 years, including assignments in support of the Korean War and the ill-fated Cuban Bay of Pigs project. Subsequently, he transferred to the Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and specialized in international sports programs while serving on the Board of Directors of the US Olympic Committee.

In retirement Al has audited classes at George Mason University since 1992. He is a past commander/trustee for the VFW post in Fairfax Station and acts as coordinator for Mason's Army ROTC office.

Al is a recent member of OLLI, having joined in the 2007 winter term.
(Photos above show Al during World War II and now.)

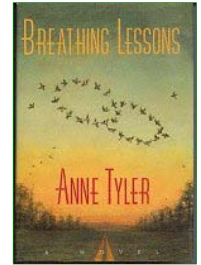
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WANTED: A FEW GOOD READERS

Come to the Book Club on Wed at 1:00



By Elizabeth Crawford, OLLI E-News staff writer



THE BOOK CLUB AT TALLWOOD invites you to attend a discussion of Anne Tyler's *Breathing Lessons* on Wed, Apr 11, at 1:00, Tallwood.

One reviewer has described Anne Tyler's characters as "quirky, . . . odd, complicated, common, and unique." Some of us may relate to Maggie, the heroine of *Breathing Lessons*, and her difficulty in finding the right degree of separation from her adult children. With humor and pathos, Tyler illustrates the fact that "family love can triumph over our very ordinariness and our flaws."

Tyler's 1989 Pulitzer Prize winning novel was chosen in coordination with Carolyn Sanders' four-week spring course (#407, "Anne Tyler"), which begins on Apr 25. Carolyn will attend the Apr 11 discussion.

Past Book Club selections have included fiction and non-fiction, biography, memoir, prize winners, and classics. Club members suggest some titles while others are decided by discussion leaders Kathryn Russell and Ceda McGrew. Before each meeting, Kathryn and Ceda email discussion questions and links to reviews and other information on the book. Discussions are lively, as one would expect when OLLI members are involved.

This month's discussion begins at 1:00 and will be over in time for members

to attend a special event at 2:00 (event C, "Peter Henriques: George Washington Celebrity Scholar"). Bring lunch and an opinion or two.

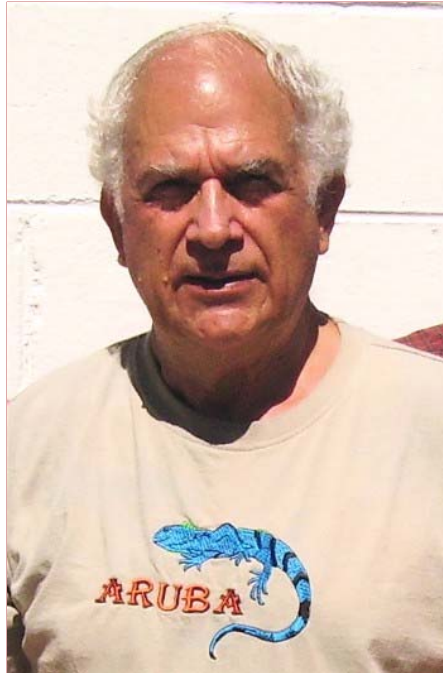
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RENAISSANCE MAN JACK UNDERHILL

Profile of the newest member of the Board



By Arleen Richman, *OLLI E-News* assistant editor



JACK UNDERHILL, THE **NEWEST MEMBER** of our Board of Directors, joined OLLI about seven years ago, a few years after he retired from the federal government. "A friend of mine talked me into teaching a course at LRI. I selected the topic of cities and the way they meet the needs of their inhabitants since I had slides from my travels to cities all over the northern hemisphere," Jack recalls. He claims that making the transition from OLLI teacher to student was not difficult since "I am first and foremost a professional student." Jack reads about 18 different newspapers, newsletters and magazines, clips articles on about 40 topics related to social-justice issues and still "has a strong desire to learn, so OLLI fits my needs quite well," he explains.

Although Jack has no preset agenda for his term on the Board (his appointment expires May 2008), he believes OLLI could "teach more courses in the field of social justice—poverty, homelessness, racism"—one of his major

interests. He also would like to see more minority students enroll at OLLI as well as improved and expanded transportation options to and from OLLI. "Although there are many special transportation programs for low-income people," he comments, "services are lacking for others in the Fairfax area who cannot drive."

Born on a sheep ranch in northern California, ("I actually lived in a log cabin for one year") he moved to northern Virginia when he joined the federal government in 1959. The majority of his 33-year career was spent at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, where he worked on the Open Space program, New Communities and programs to help the homeless.

Jack graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a BA in International Relations. He holds two masters degrees, one in Public Law and Government from Columbia University in the City of New York and the second in Public Administration from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. Just before he retired from the federal government, he earned his PhD in Public Policy from George Mason University.

Jack and Jane, his wife of 46 years, raised three children in Holmes Run Acres near Fairfax Hospital where they have lived for 42 years. Jack's photos of Holmes Run Acres, enhanced by his wood sculpture, charcoal drawings and poetry, are the focus of the OLLI exhibit, "I Saw the Face of God in the Waters," now on view in the social room annex. Travel, church work, and grandchildren further consume Jack's time.

(Photo of Jack by Gordon Canyock)

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EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS

Comments, questions or suggestions about OLLI? Here's how to express your views--

- **Privately--**
 - Contact any [Board member](#) or the [Executive Director](#);
 - Send an email to the entire Board (email the [editor](#) or the [office](#) to have your message forwarded to all members of the Board);
 - Submit a suggestion [online](#) or in the box in the Tallwood social room or on one of the "parking lots for ideas" in classrooms; or
 - Contact the office by [email](#) or phone (703-503-3384).
- **Publicly** (if you would like your comments to be seen by other members, including the Board, and the Executive Director): [Email](#) a "Letter to the Editor" or a "Letter to Ms. Ollie Ettakit" for publication in *OLLI E-News*.

COMING EVENTS AT THE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Something for everyone at nearby Mason, Apr 7-15



By Jan Bohall, OLLI E-News staff writer

For tickets, call 888-945-2468 (phone orders are handled by tickets.com) or visit the [Center for the Arts](#) Box Office, Tue–Sat, 10:00–6:00.

Cherryholmes



She draws inspiration from the traditional founders of bluegrass, the Stanley Brothers, Bill Monroe and Hazel Dickens, but continues to thrill audiences coast to coast with a distinctive style. She was named International Bluegrass Music Association's Entertainer of the Year in 2005, and the tight-knit family band's new CD received a GRAMMY nomination for Best Bluegrass Album.

Sat, Apr 7, 8:00
Admission: \$44, \$36, \$22
Family Friendly: Children 12 and under half price, with an adult

GMU Players—Studio Series *Hot 'n' Throbbing* by Paula Vogel

Thu, Apr 12, 8:00
Fri, Apr 13, 8:00
Sat, Apr 14, 2:00 & 8:00
Sun, Apr 15, 2:00
Admission: \$3 seniors/students, \$5 adults
Black Box Theater (From Level 2 of Parking Deck take the bridge. Enter first door on left and follow hallway, go through gray doors and downstairs).

GMU Dance Company Gala Concert

Fri, Apr 13, 8:00
Sat, Apr 14, 8:00
Admission: \$12 seniors/students, \$20 adults
Concert Hall

Thomas Brawley Memorial Concert *featuring faculty & student chamber string ensembles*

Sun, Apr 15, 3:00
Admission: Free
Harris Theater

Concert Hall
Come early at 7:15 for an artistic discussion in the Grand Tier Lobby.

GMU University Chorale

Sat, Apr 7, 8:00
Admission: Seniors/students \$7, Adults \$10
Harris Theater

Visual Voices AVT Professional Lecture Series

Ecological Design: Theory and Practice
Carrie & Kevin Burke, Architecture and Industrial Design
Thu, Apr 12, 7:30
Admission: Free
Harris Theater

John Williams and John Etheridge Duo

Together & Solo
Virtuosos in contemporary and classical guitar each performing a solo set infused with classical, jazz and world music. Australian John Williams has collaborated with musical greats, and John Etheridge is known for his time with the band Soft Machine.
Sun, Apr 15, 7:00
Admission: \$44, \$36, \$22
Concert Hall
Come early at 6:15 for an artistic discussion in the Grand Foyer Lobby.

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MASON HIGHLIGHTS

A brief listing of other events at nearby Mason



By Barbara Kyriakakis, OLLI E-News assistant editor

- [Virginia State Science and Engineering Fair](#) – Open to the public from 2:00 to 4:00 on Sat, Apr 7, in the Johnson Center Dewberry Hall.
- [Cinema Series](#) - *The Good Shepherd*. Showings at 6:00 & 9:00. \$1 with Mason ID. Sat, Apr 7, JC Cinema.
- Asian Pacific American Cultural Dance Showcase - Features Hawaiian, Asian Indian, Chinese Taiji, Mongolia, Vietnamese, Bolivian, Guzheng, and Korean dance performances. Sun, Apr 8, 3:30 to 5:30, Harris Theater.
- [International Week](#) - International Bazaar & Mid-Day Performances. Mon, Apr 9 through Thu, Apr 12. Food, cultural exhibits, demonstrations, documentaries, vendors and performances. Free. 12:00 to 3:00, North Plaza (rain site: JC Lower Level).
- Film and Panel Discussion – Winner of Cannes' prestigious Camera d'Or

prize in 2005, *The Forsaken Land* is an exquisitely shot, haunting cinematic allegory of Sri Lanka's troubled past and uneasy present. Wed, Apr 11, 2:00 to 4:15, JC Cinema.

- International Fashion Show – A captivating and vibrant showcase of ethnic, traditional and modern fashions from around the world. Thu, Apr 12, noon to 2:00, Johnson Center Dewberry Hall.
- [Visiting Writer's Series](#) —Nick Reding, author of *The Last Cowboys at the End of the World: The Story of the Gauchos of Patagonia*, will speak in SUB I, Rooms A through C at 7:30 on Wed, Apr 18.

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COMING ATTRACTIONS

Non-class events at OLLI for the next two weeks

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the more complete [OLLI Staff Forecast of Non-Class Events](#). *Board, committee, resource-group and 'membership-type' meetings/events are highlighted in bold.* OLLI members are welcome at all Board, committee and resource-group meetings (except executive sessions).

APR			
6	Friday	9:30 AM	Drama Club TA-3
		10:00 AM	112 Recorder Workshop TA-2
		11:00 AM	Fiction Writers' Club Annex
		11:30 AM	Recorder Group TA-2
		1:30 PM	Homer Book Club Annex
11	Wednesday	1:00 PM	Book Club of Tallwood - Bring Your Lunch! TA-2
		1:30 PM	Bridge Club TA-3
		2:00 PM	Spec Event C: George Washington TA-1
		2:30 PM	Sign Language Club Annex
13	Friday	9:30 AM	Drama Club TA-3
		10:00 AM	112 Recorder Workshop TA-2
		10:00 AM	Presentation of Photos and Poems by Jack Underhill Annex
		11:30 AM	Recorder Group TA-2
		12:00 Noon	Mini Town Hall Meeting - Bring Your Lunch! TA-1
		1:30 PM	Homer Book Club Annex
18	Wednesday	1:30 PM	Bridge Club TA-3
		2:00 PM	Spec Event D: There's A Jester In My Closet TA-1
		2:00 PM	Genealogy TA-2
		2:30 PM	Sign Language Club Annex

20	Friday	8:00 AM	Spec Event E: Maymont Estate Bus Trip	Fair Oaks Mall Park Lot 44
		9:30 AM	Drama Club	TA-3
		10:00 AM	112 Recorder Workshop	TA-2
		10:00 AM	Classic Fiction	Reston
		11:30 AM	Recorder Group	TA-2
		1:30 PM	Homer Book Club	Annex

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Rod Zumbro
Editor



Karen
Hamilton
**Deputy
Editor**

About OLLI E-News. OLLI E-News, OLLI's weekly newsletter, is emailed to OLLI members with email addresses on Fridays. When classes are in session, printed copies of this newsletter are distributed in classrooms, primarily for members without email. We encourage OLLI members and staff employees to submit news items and write articles; deadline to the editor is 7:00 PM Wed for that week's issue. Comments, suggestions or complaints? Please contact the [OLLI E-News editor](#) or the Publications Committee chair, [Gordon Canyock](#).

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