



FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

Vol. 51, No. 12

www.savefoggybottom.com

March 3, 2010

Organization of American States – So What Does it Mean to Me?

The Organization of American States (OAS) is the world's oldest regional organization, dating back to the First International Conference of American States, which was held in Washington, D.C. from October 1889 to April 1890. At that conference, the establishment of the International Union of American Republics was approved and the stage was set for the weaving together of a web of provisions and institutions that came to be known as the inter-American system. This oldest of the international institutional systems was preceded by the Congress of Panama convened by Simón Bolívar in 1826. It was only in 1889 that the American States decided to meet periodically and to forge a shared system of norms and institutions. There were, in the meantime, conferences and meetings that attempted to give birth to the system, but it was only at the invitation of the U.S. Government that the process began and continued uninterrupted until this day. Apart from those



Conferences, there were also Meetings of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and special meetings, such as the 1945 conference in Mexico City on Inter-American Problems of War and Peace to discuss joint activities to be undertaken by the American States consistent with the United Nations, which was

Organization of American States

then in the process of being established; Or the 1947 Inter-American Conference for the Maintenance of Continental Peace and Security, convened in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and adopted the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance. This was done, in the aftermath of World War II and as the Cold War began to loom, in order to ensure legitimate collective self-defense in the event of an attack from a foreign power from outside the region and to decide on joint actions in the event of a conflict between two States Parties to the Treaty. Throughout this period, numerous agreements were adopted that established the basic principles of what would

later become the Organization of American States. The OAS was established to achieve among its member states, as stated in Article 1 of its Charter, "an order of peace and justice, to promote their solidarity, to strengthen their collaboration, and to defend their sovereignty, their territorial integrity, and their independence." The OAS Washington campus is located in FB and consists of five buildings including an art and cultural center at 201 18th Street, NW. (<http://museum.oas.org/exhibitions.html>). OAS headquarters, one of the most magnificent buildings in DC, is located at 17th and Constitution, directly behind the Art Museum of the Americas, mentioned above.

The OAS comprises the 35 independent states of the Americas and has granted permanent observer status to 63 states, as well as to the European Union. The OAS constitutes the principal political, juridical, and social governmental forum in the Hemisphere and uses a four-pronged approach to effectively implement its essential purposes, based on its pillars: democracy, human rights, security, and development. ~

SAVE THE DATE!

DC Preservation League's 2010 Annual Fundraising Event A Landmark Building Centennial: Organization of American States

Date: Thursday, April 22, 2010

Time: 6:30–9:00pm

Location: Hall of the Americas

17th St & Constitution Ave, NW

Cocktails and Hors D'oeuvres
Registration begins this week.
Tickets are \$100 per person

For more information and updates go to
www.dcpreservation.org.
Telephone: 202-783-5144

DC Preservation League is located in FB at
401 F Street, NW, Suite 324.

*The mission of the DC Preservation League is to
preserve and protect the historic and
built environment of Washington, DC,
through advocacy and education.*

THE FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

Foggy Bottom Association
Post Office Box 58087
Washington, DC 20037-8087
Editor-in-Chief: Susan Trinter
strinter@gmail.com

The *Foggy Bottom News* is published by the Foggy Bottom Association as a service to its members and provides information on FBA and neighborhood news, programs, activities and other events of interest to FBA members. Contributions and story ideas are welcome, but the *FBN* reserves the right to edit or hold pieces as space requires.

The Foggy Bottom Association was formed by a group of citizens in 1955 and was formally incorporated in 1959. Attendance at FBA meetings is open to all residents of Foggy Bottom and the West End.

FBA Officers:

PRESIDENT – Asher Corson
VICE PRESIDENT – Lev Trubkovich
SECRETARY – Jill Nevius
TREASURER – Bille Hougart
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR – David Hertzfeldt

FBA Board of Directors:

Victor Ciardello, Dusty Horwitt, Lucia Pollock,
Greg Snyder, Robert Vogt, John Woodard
Ex-Officio: Joy Howell (Immediate Past President);
Susan Trinter (FBN Editor)

WEST END LIBRARY MARCH PROGRAMS

THURSDAY MARCH 4, 12:30pm – LOLITA There will be a screening of *Lolita*, Stanley Kubrick's 1962 film based on the classic novel of the same title by Vladimir Nabokov, at the West End branch library in the large meeting room on Thursday, March 4, at 12:30 pm. There are details on the web at <http://www.dclibrary.org/westend>.

(continued on next page)

⇒ ⇒ FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS (continues on next page)

WEST END LIBRARY MARCH PROGRAMS (cont'd)

TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 12:30pm to 2:00pm – The West End Library Book groups will be discussing Edward P. Jones' *The Known World*. Copies of the book are available at the reference desk at the library.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, from 12:00 noon to 2:30pm – The library will screen the film version of *My Sister's Keeper*.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, from 7:00pm to 8:30pm – The West End Library Book groups will be discussing Jodi Picoult's *My Sister's Keeper*. Copies of the book are available at the reference desk at the library.

West End Neighborhood Library (24th and L St NW)

For more info call Bill Turner, WE Librarian at 202-724-8698, or email bill.turner@dc.gov

**FBA MEMBERSHIP 2010
YOU COUNT!**

Visit the FBA website, www.saveFoggyBottom.com to see what we've been up to, peruse the archives of the Foggy Bottom News, and check out the FB/WE merchants who offer discounts to our members. Join Us!

\$15 (tax deductible) per year.

Membership year: January 1 to December 31, 2010

**FOGGY BOTTOM ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

Membership Dues (\$15.00 per person).....\$_____

Contribution\$_____

Total Enclosed\$_____

Clip and return this form with checks made payable to the

FOGGY BOTTOM ASSOCIATION.

Mail to: FBA, Post Office Box 58087

Washington, DC 20037-8087.

The Foggy Bottom Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit org.