



# OMNIOLORE NEWS

Volume 5 Issue 4

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## OMNIOLORE NEWS

A publication of OMNIOLORE, a Learning in Retirement Organization affiliated with The Division of Extended Education of California State University Dominguez Hills

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Ethel Allen

OmnioLore News is published six times annually. We welcome short feature articles and news stories. Contact any of the staff members with your contributions.

Staff Members  
Ginger Engstrom  
Blanche Fleming  
Peggy Houghton  
Ronnie Saunders  
Joyce Zima

## MEMBERS URGED TO SUGGEST STUDY TOPICS

by Terry Savage

One of the most important things we can do as OmnioLore members is to propose new discussion topics for our fellow-members to enjoy.

By the time you read this you should already have received the Study Topic proposal forms (yellow sheets). You will note that these have been extensively revised. There are a number of reasons for this revision.



First — We don't want people to assume that the fact that they have proposed a topic requires them to be the coordinator. The new form allows the topic-proposer to suggest someone as a possible coordinator or to suggest no one as coordinator.

Second — The new form provides more detailed guidelines for preparing your proposal.

Third — We have eliminated the due date for submitting proposals as we would like to encourage members to submit proposals on an ongoing basis and to submit multiple proposals if they have several ideas.

Topic suggestions are a vital part of the OmnioLore experience; and our goal is have every member submit at least one topic per year. This gives every member a direct way to influence the entire organization.

The Curriculum Committee appreciates your help. If you have any questions, call any member of the committee: Ray Allen, Mary Delia, June Hather, Ruth Money, or Terry Savage.

## 'ARSENIC AND OLD LACE' THEATRE PARTY TO BE HELD SUNDAY, JULY 28



OmnioLore will sponsor a theater party to see the play "Arsenic and Old Lace" Sunday, July 28 at the Palos Verdes Players Playhouse, 2432 Mareton, Torrance.

The playhouse is located near Crenshaw Boulevard behind the Palos Verdes Bowl opposite the Crossroads.

Deadline for reservations is July 15th. Cost is \$9 per ticket. Interested members are asked to tear off the form below and mail it to Connie Kramer with their check. Persons who do not meet the deadline will have to call the Palos Verdes at 326-2287 and make reservations on their own.

Reservations for July 28 Theatre Party  
Arsenic and Old Lace

Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Tickets @ \$9 \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with check to Connie Kramer  
652 33rd Street  
Manhattan Beach, Ca. 90266

Reservation deadline—July 15

## Senior Sleuths Invade Getty

by Joyce Zima



It was a dark and stormy night—well, not really. It was a bright and sunny day when the

Omnilore sleuths, 21 strong, set out to solve the mysteries of the J. Paul Getty museum in Malibu. April 24th at 9:30 a.m., to be exact. They went armed with questions like: "Is that bronze Kouros real or fake?" (undecided by the international panel of judges), and "Where did that Aphrodite really come from?" (Sicily or southern Italy). The building itself came under scrutiny. "Is it a copy or merely an architect's fantasy creation?" The lovely villa, which houses but a small portion of the Getty collections, is a reproduction based on an authentic Roman villa, the Villa di Papyrii, excavated at Herculaneum, near Rome, in the 1750's.

The technical terms for these types of questions are *provenance* and *authentication*, (i.e. where was the work of art produced, by whom, and who has owned it). Even with all the investigation a work is subjected to, many a clever fake has slipped by the learned eyes and up-to-date technology (i.e. autoradiography) of the art world. One famous/infamous fakir produced a prodigious and extremely profitable output. Between 1961 and 1967, Elmyr de Hory forged 60 million dollars worth of paintings and drawings of modern masters. Possibly three-quarters of his output still remain undisclosed as fakes.

Like all good detectives, the group researched the pertinent facts beforehand—ably aided and abetted by Fred Kiefer, who provided each member with a folder of information culled from relevant books and articles to study before the trip.

The tour guide for this tour de force was Dr. Jill Finsten, tale-teller extraordinaire and extremely knowledgeable to boot. The tour

commenced at the Getty *kouros*, (a nude Greek Olympiad athlete), located in the northwest corner off the main floor atrium. Since this work has been highly controversial regarding both provenance and authentication since its acquisition by the museum in 1983, many of its stylistic anomalies were pointed out: the face and hair are very stylized, the ears are placed at different heights and are of differing shapes, the torso shows lack of good anatomical grasp by the sculptor, and yet the feet are very naturalistically carved. There was also a lack of any established provenance. When asked as to what the general consensus was regarding its authenticity, Ms. Finsten stated that it is evenly split—more scientists think it "real", more archaeologists/art historians think it a fake.

The tour ended on the second floor which features European paintings and decorative arts. These are the items which are being moved to the new Getty now in the final stages of construction. James Ensor's Christ's Entry into Brussels (approximately 12' x 10') covered one wall. It represents the chronological end of the Getty collection—there is nothing beyond 1900. Unfortunately, the scheduled question-and-answer session precluded an in-depth look at the 16th and 17th century European paintings which are Ms. Finsten's special area of expertise.

Many of the members expressed a desire to return in the near future to see what was missed because of time constraints. If you haven't been there for a while, or if you haven't seen the collection at all—GO NOW FOLKS! Once the transfer of art objects has been made to the new Getty with an opening scheduled after Spring '97, the villa will be closed for refurbishing until the year 2000.

## Downtown LA Walking Tour

by Nancy Moricle

If you had forgotten, or never knew, that downtown Los Angeles is brimming with historic landmarks, beautiful old and new buildings and lush green plazas complete with stunning fountains, then you should have been with our Omnilore Walking Group on April 19 for a day of enlightenment and adventure in Los Angeles.



Under the expert leadership of John Taber, our group of 18 boarded the Green Line in Redondo Beach at 9:00 a.m., transferred to the Blue Line, and exited at 7th and Flower where we were met by Dick Webber, a docent with the Los Angeles Conservancy. While John led us on the route he had planned, Dick filled us in on some of the colorful history of Los Angeles.

We explored the refurbished library and grounds, rode the relocated Angel's Flight and strolled through the Biltmore Hotel. We saw the city's first fire station, now a restaurant, admired numerous beautiful buildings, including the Bradbury, walked through the Grand Central Market and had a delicious lunch at Olvera Street.

At about 2:30 p.m. we headed for Union Station, admired its beautiful decor and boarded the Red Line. In an hour and two transfers we were back where we started.

Don't be left out of the fun next time. Call John Taber at 381-4768 or Sunny Golombek at 371-4358 and get on the mailing list.

### Omnilore News

Comments and input can be sent to



**OMNILORE CSUDH**  
**P.O. Box 7000-236**  
**Redondo Beach, Ca. 90277**  
**Phone (310) 540-6011**

**HOT TOPICS**

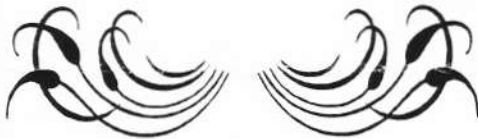
by Joann Ludwig

On the third Thursday of each month from 12-2 everyone interested is invited to bring their lunch to the classrooms and join in a rousing bull session on the "hot topic" of the month. No preparation is necessary other than an interest in the topic.

Is Medicare going to survive? Now we hear that the Medicare surplus will be running out in 5 years. That's 10 years before the first of the baby boomers turns 65 and the real pressure on Medicare begins. Is there anything that can be done to preserve this safety net for the elderly? Increase the deductible? Limit the things it will pay for? Increase the starting age of recipients? We will discuss this knotty problem on July 18th.

On August 15, in the doldrums of the summer, we will talk about legal immigration. Is there a problem with legal immigration? Should we limit legal immigration? Do immigrants create too much competition for jobs?

Hope you can join us to add your insights and opinions to these discussions.



**WE WANT TO KNOW . .**

Please call Connie Kramer, (310) 545-2286, if you know of any member in our midst who is having difficulty of any kind. OmniLore members want to respond with offers of help, transportation, a phone call, flowers or whatever.



**Omniole Profiles**

**Norm Lobsenz**

**F**or most of his life Brooklyn-born Norm Lobsenz has earned his living as a free-lance writer.

After earning a bachelor's degree in Journalism from New York University and a Master's from Columbia, Norm was hired by Newsday in 1940 three months before the paper began publication. During his three years there he worked as a cub reporter, did re-writes, wrote features, handled page makeup, and served as picture editor and copy editor.

In 1943 he took a position with the British Information Services in their New York offices where he issued military news releases and conducted background research. On D-Day he went to work for the Office of War Information where he worked the London desk in their New York office.

After the war, Norm was employed as a rewrite man for the New York Post and worked the copy desk at the Daily Mirror before beginning his career as a free lance writer. His first magazine article, (about a mail order attorney) appeared in Coronet Magazine. For a year and a half he and his wife toured the west while combining sightseeing with writing.

Upon returning to New York, he wrote a book for young adults which became a book of the month selection for the Junior Literary Guild. He joined the Society of Magazine Writers and built a reputation as a writer.

Shortly after the birth of his first son, he was offered a position by Cowles Publications, publishers of Look magazine, as managing editor of "Quick," a new pocket sized

weekly news magazine they were launching. The magazine lasted three years, going out of publication in 1953. Ever since, Norm has been free lancing.

He has written over 1,000 articles for virtually every national magazine. Sometimes—such as the time the Shah of Iran took an 18 year old bride when his first empress failed to produce an heir— Norm's assignments took him overseas.

Eventually he began to specialize in articles dealing with family relationships. About three quarters of everything he has written has been in that field.

He has won three awards from Family Services of America and several awards from the American Association for Marital and Family Therapy, which named him as the only writer ever to receive their Distinguished Affiliate Member award.

In 1965 he served as president of the American Society of Journalists and Authors.

In addition to magazine writing, Norm has written 21 books—both alone and in collaboration—in the field of family relationships and popular psychology and has edited an additional half dozen. For the past five years he has concentrated exclusively on book writing.

A member of Omniole for the past three years, 77-year old Norm has recently undertaken a new activity. He is currently undergoing training to be a peer counselor for older adults for the South Bay Health District. He has resided in California for the past 20 years, and is the father of three sons and five granddaughters, and is expecting a new grandchild in September.

**Preesenting... New members**



Edith Van Bellehem  
Helen Duggins  
Carol Johnson  
Etta Tourkin

Alfred Bernstein  
Arlene Emenaker  
Adair Hoult



**Omnilore Poet Colleen Welch Signs Books, Wins Award**

Colleen Welch, member of the Omnilore Writers Group, was doubly honored during the past two months.

When Little Company of Mary Hospital sponsored its Martha Stewart Day at the Redondo Marina May 10, Colleen was invited to participate in a book-signing of

"Poetry in the Garden", an anthology edited by Jacqueline Bachar, which featured two of Colleen's poems.

Theme of the anthology was "Mid blossoms and flowers, may you spend happy hours."

In addition, Colleen won second prize—a cash award—in the 1996 annual poetry contest sponsored by the Southwest Manuscripters Club.

Colleen attributes her success to the encouragement of fellow classmates in the Omnilore Writers Group.



**Elderhostel Institute Announces Overseas Programs for 1997**

Each year the Elderhostel Network chooses a few of Elderhostel's most successful overseas programs, pairs them with a customized preparatory study course, and offers them exclusively to members of Network affiliated Institutes.

Offerings for 1997 will include three programs:

Bermuda's History and Heritage, February 10-16

Religion and Politics of Ireland, June 14-18

Spain: Catalonia, Madrid and Compostela, June 3-26

Persons who previously took the Omnilore Celtic study/discussion group would have the prerequisite for the Ireland program. Persons desiring to take preparatory study groups for any of the upcoming courses are asked to contact Fred Kiefer, 377-6286, so that Omnilore might schedule appropriate preparatory study courses.



**Nominating Committee Named**

The nominating committee which will draw up a slate of candidates for the coming year has been named. Committee members include Whit Wilson, John Taber, and Ethel Allen. If you have any suggestions for would-be officers for the next year, contact any member of the committee.



**Omnilore Carpenter Needed**

Omnilore is looking for a member with carpentry skills who would be willing to install shelves in the classroom closets. If you have these skills and are interested in helping out, please call Whit Wilson, 541-1323.

**CALENDAR CHANGES? CALL ELYSE!**

From time to time a study/discussion group finds it necessary to change its meeting time or date. In order to facilitate scheduling for all Omnilore groups and committees, it is necessary to coordinate schedule changes with Elyse Boozer, administrative vice president.

IF YOU WISH TO MAKE A CALENDAR CHANGE  
PLEASE CALL ELYSE AT 559-9589.

**CALENDAR**

- July 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY
- July 6 Fall Class Rosters Mailed to All Members
- July 11 Board of Directors Meeting
- July 19 Deadline for Fall Study/Discussion Registration
- July 22-26 Fall Coordinators Meet with Curriculum Committee
- August 1 Board of Directors Meeting
- August 16 Deadline for September Newsletter
- August 30 Summer Session Ends
- September 2 Labor Day
- September 5 Board of Directors Meeting

