



OMNILORE NEWS

Volume 6 Issue 2

March 1997

OMNILORE NEWS

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

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Omnilore 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
Whit Wilson (Sub)
Blanche Herring
Peggy Houghton
Ronnie Saunders
Joyce Zima

JPL DAY TRIP SET FOR APRIL 14

A day trip to Jet Propulsion Laboratory, JPL, will take place Monday, April 14. Since the bus can only accommodate 40 persons, reservations will be limited and a waiting list will be established based on earliest postmark. Spouses will be accommodated only if vacancies are available.

The bus will depart from the Peninsula parking lot opposite the Norris Theatre at 9:30 a.m. and return at 4:30 p.m. Members are asked to assemble at 9:15 a.m. and park at the intersection of Crossfield Drive and Indian Peak Road along the perimeter of the parking lot.

Members are advised to bring a sack lunch. Cold drinks will be provided.

Upon arrival at JPL, Matt Golombek, son of OMNILORE member Sunny Golombek, will meet the group and give them a tour of mission operations for Mars Pathfinder prior to lunch. He will talk to the group informally over lunch, after which the formal tour will be conducted by Kay Ferrari, JPL group tour coordinator.

A week before the event a pre-meeting will be held Monday, April 7 at 10a.m. in room 7 at which time a video orientation regarding the Mars Pathfinder and the Global Surveyor will be shown and handouts will be distributed.

DEADLINE ON RESERVATIONS IS MARCH 21. Persons desiring to bring their spouses are advised to send two separate checks so that one may be returned if the spouse cannot be accommodated. Checks should be sent with the registration form below to OMNILORE CSUDH, P.O. Box 7000-236, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 and should be made payable to FRIENDS OF OMNILORE.

Reservations for April 14 Tour of JPL

Name of Member _____

Name of Spouse _____

Checks Enclosed One at \$16 each _____
 Two at \$16 each _____

If you need transportation to the bus, check here: _____

Make checks payable to FRIENDS OF OMNILORE

Mail to: Omnilore CSUDH
 P.O. Box 700-236
 Redondo Beach, CA 90277

(If spouse can not be accommodated, one check will be returned.)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*by Fred Kiefer*

I have written this message to better describe some rather significant actions of the OMNILORE Board of Directors because I feel that many OMNILORE members are unaware of the board's activities and because I judge that recent decisions by the board will interest and affect all members. The objective of the OMNILORE board is to provide policies which guide the efficient operation of the OMNILORE organization within the objectives of its by-laws.

During December and January actions were taken to improve the operational capability of OMNILORE as well as the physical environment in which we all meet at Knob Hill.

At the December meeting the board voted to designate the job/task description manual prepared under John Taber's direction as the official OMNILORE OPERATIONS MANUAL. The product of over three years' work, it will serve to clarify requirements and job relationships for the activities necessary for our day-to-day operation. A copy of this manual is available in room 7, on the table by the sink, for all members to consult.

The OMNILORE OPERATIONS MANUAL also provides for a new function called the President's Advisory Council, which can be convened by the president in order to provide guidance and suggestions pertaining to new policies for problems which need long-range objective analysis by experienced OMNILORE members. The council consists of past OMNILORE presidents and its founder.

I highlight this activity because I

convened this council in early January to consider two potential problems of fundamental significance: (1) what controls are needed over the growth rate of OMNILORE (now at nearly 150 members) in order to maintain our academic goals and operational capability and (2) what criteria are needed to fully define seminar content, continuation and repetition. I use the term "seminar" rather than course to more accurately reflect the nature of our discussion sessions.

At present, the Advisory Council is at work on those issues and should have recommendations to the board for action within two or three months.

Actions during the January board meeting have already resulted in the installation of solid-core doors between rooms 7 and 8. This effort, which started over a year ago, was delayed until permission was given by the appropriate authorities at CSUDH and Knob Hill administration. It should certainly provide a quieter environment for group discussions.

The board has also voted to acquire a new "opaque" projector for use as needed by any member in a presentation. The device allows projection onto a screen of images and text from books and magazines directly without the need for creation of a transparency. We are presently examining a way to securely store the projector in room 7 or 8.

I hope you will find this information of interest. The members of the board are dedicated to maintaining the excellence of our seminars and discussion groups. We all welcome any suggestions you may have. Remember, we have

**New Registration Form
Makes Its Debut
for Summer 97***By Joyce Zima*

The new one-step registration form, developed by John Taber, is designed primarily to achieve two things—to both speed up and simplify class registration.

It will simplify the registration process for both the general membership and the curriculum committee in the following ways: (1) By cutting out a preliminary interest form, there should be no confusion on a member's part as to whether or not he has registered for classes; (2) One form eliminates the redundancy, time and expense of having to re-mail class descriptions; (3) The form has been designed for computer input which, with the help of our secretary Johan, should significantly speed up the process of getting the most members in their classes of first choice at hours they can attend.

The Summer registration forms, which had a deadline return date of February 10, are now in the process of being tabulated and the new computer program is getting its first test. As soon as the results are finalized, a list of the selected classes and their meeting times will be given to all current coordinators and will also be posted on the board. When summer coordinators have volunteered, each will contact his individual group members. The summer session begins the week of May 12.

a Suggestion Box in room 7; or you can contact the appropriate officer or committee chairperson for discussion. I will continue to inform you of key issues and policies as they develop. Remember—it's your organization—please be active in it.

Omniole Profiles
John Vehrencamp - VP Administration

John Vehrencamp is probably the only Omniorian who can claim to have bicycled the entire Pacific Coast from the Oregon-California border to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico.

Although John has been cycling for over two decades, he did not start on this hobby until after he had raised his own three children.

Born and raised in small towns in Virginia, John has been a Californian ever since his junior high school days.

John graduated from Hoover High School in Glendale in 1944. During his two year stint in the Naval Air Corps, he took college studies as part of the Navy's V-5 program at Carroll College in Helena, Montana and the University of Colorado at Boulder.

He was discharged from the Navy in July, 1946 in San Diego where he helped prepare a ship to be decommissioned.

After his discharge, he returned to Glendale where he married, took a part time job at the Glendale post office, and enrolled in the engineering program at UCLA. His first child was born while he was studying at UCLA.

Upon receiving his degree in 1950 John was offered a position in UCLA's engineering research group, where he spent the next six years working on a study in microclimatology which the university was conducting for the Office of Naval Research.

By 1956 he had become the father of two more children and went to work for a small instrument company which made miniature transducers. The company was bought out in 1958 at which time he began his career with TRW where he

remained until his retirement in 1989.

The space age was just starting when John began his career with TRW; and as a result he got in on various satellite projects in their early stages. He was among the first engineers to be involved in the Pioneer satellite, whose thermal system he helped design.

He also took part in the Orbiting Geophysical Observatory program and worked on proposals and studies for a variety of classified new satellite systems throughout his career.

Active in the Sierra Club and the Canyon Explorers Club since the 1970's, John is an avid hiker, backpacker and bicyclist. In addition, he has been interested in woodworking and furniture building throughout his lifetime.

Since his retirement, John has led a number of bicycling trips with the Canyon Explorers. In 1953 he organize and led a two-week bicycle to Costa Rica. At the present time he is planning a two-and-one-half week trip he is scheduled to lead this summer along the back roads bordering the Mississippi River. Eight cyclists will make the trip from St. Louis to New Orleans.

A member of OMNIOLORE for the past three years, John is the grandfather of six children—one boy and five girls ranging in age from 21 to 5.

**WELCOME TO
 Our New Members**
 Claudia Elliot
 Anita Fox
 Carol McCully
 Joanna Lundy
 Marguerite Noetzli
 Ellen Rifman

**Phillipino Dinner
 Set For March 22**

Upon the heels of its first ethnic dinner, a Japanese buffet attended by 11 members, OMNIOLORE has planned a second social event—a gourmet Phillipino sampler dinner to be held Saturday, March 22 at 5:30 p.m. at Cafe Cego's, 777 Deep Valley Drive, Palos Verdes Peninsula (located between the Palos Verdes Library and Bristol Farms).

The gourmet sampler will include soup, entrees, dessert, and coffee. Cost, including tax and tip, is \$26.55 per person.

Reservations may be made by cutting off the form below and mailing with check to Mary O'Neill, 2550 Pacific Coast Highway, #158, Torrance, CA 90505.

DEADLINE ON RESERVATIONS IS MARCH 17

**RESERVATIONS FOR
 PHILLIPINO DINNER**

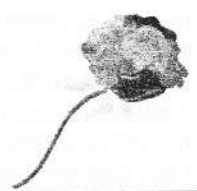
Name of member (s) _____

Amount Enclosed @ \$26.55 apiece _____

Make check payable to: Mary O'Neill
 Reservation deadline: March 17

WE WANT TO KNOW . .

Please call Sunny Golombek (310) 371-4358, 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.



Winter Colloquium

by Ellen Bradford
Member of Writer's
Workshop Press Corps

Speaking at the February Omniole Colloquium, Dr. Dennis L. Kelley, professor of marine biology at Orange Coast College, told of current research on the oceans of Earth.

Kelley spoke of the almost infinite advantages of exploring the waters that cover the larger area of the world — even more advantages than exploring space. "It is a more critical challenge if our world is to not be harmed from the present careless use of the seas."

Outer space may offer great possibilities, Kelley claims, but "it is not inhabitable. We're missing the forest for the trees. We must appreciate what we have here on earth. This is an ocean planet, for it is 71% water." The climates of the world depend on the ocean to keep large areas livable. The currents cool the hotter regions and warm the coldest parts, but this may be lost if the global warming continues or gets worse.

Kelley spoke with enthusiasm of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA) — the "wet NASA." This agency is a part of the Department of Commerce and has a mighty job. At this time NOAA has thirty ships scattered around the globe exploring, mapping, finding new creatures, developing new techniques, and looking for ways to save the precious bounty of the seas.

NOAA has found that the longest mountain range travels from the North Atlantic down and eastward around the world, ending at California. And the highest mountain in the world is Hawaii. Now that tests have shown

HOT TOPICS

by Joann Ludwig

On the third Thursday of each month from 12-2 everyone interested is invited to bring a 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.

This year the United Nations is celebrating its 50th anniversary. On March 20 let's discuss the United Nations. How have they been doing? Is the UN necessary? Is the UN attempting to do too much or take on too much power?

On April 17 let's talk about the balanced budget and the deficit

where hurricanes are born, NOAA scientists hope that it may be possible to stop hurricanes before they fully form. And by monitoring the tectonic plates beneath the sea, the agency may be able to predict earthquakes.

Dr. Kelley responded to questions with his wide background of information: No, the Bermuda Triangle is nothing but myth. The most dangerous triangle of ocean is from Palos Verdes to Catalina to Newport. More boats are lost in this area than any other. Yes, the dolphins love Redondo Beach because of the sandy bottom just off shore. They find the fishing great, "for the fish can run, but they can't hide." Yes, the ocean is a great place for finding beneficial drugs for mankind. Oysters, sharks other animals of the sea, plus an infinite variety of plants, provide life-saving chemicals, household aids, and foods.

President Fred Kiefer thanked the speaker and the Colloquium Committee, chaired by Patricia Morrison, for the day's activities.

issues. Some people feel it is imperative that we balance the budget in order to bring the deficit down. Others seem to think that the deficit is actually beneficial and attempts to lower it are misguided. I sure don't understand this. I'm not even sure the statements above are true, it's just the impression I've gotten from what I've read. Maybe some of you can set me straight.

Any ideas for future topics would be very welcome. Sometimes I am really stretching on these topics. If you have some suggestions, give me a call at 377-4989.

THEATER FLASHES

By Mary O'Neill

Events members may wish to attend. Reservations to be booked at member's own convenience and date.

Concert Series: Pianist Elizabeth Moka will appear in concert at Cal State Dominguez Hills, Tuesday, March 11 at 8 p.m. as part of the university's ongoing concert series. For ticket information call the box office, 243-3589.

Plays: The play "Architect and the Emperor of Assyria" will be presented at CSUDH, 1100 East Victoria Street, Carson, March 7, 8, 14, 15 and 16. For ticket information call box office, 243-3589.

Upcoming plays at the Long Beach Playhouse, 5021 Anaheim Street, Long Beach, include: Neil Simon's "Come Blow Your Horn" to be presented March 2, 16, and 23 and the mystery "Murder by Misadventure", scheduled for April 13, 20 and May 4. Ticket information may be obtained by calling 494-1616.

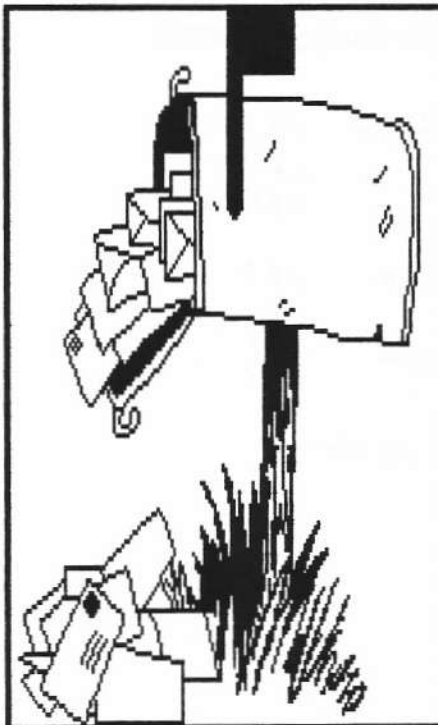
CALENDAR

March	6	Board of Directors Meeting
	23-30	GOOD FRIDAY - EASTER
April	3	Board of Directors Meeting
	7	Preparation class for JPL full day study trip
	14	Day trip to JPL
	22	PASSOVER
	28	Spring Session Ends
May	1	Board of Directors Meeting <u>approval of 97-98 calendar</u>
	12	SUMMER STUDY/DISCUSSION GROUPS BEGIN
	21	Spring Colloquium
	26	MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATED

SUGGESTIONS? CRITICISMS?

OMNILORE wants to know what you are concerned about. To date there have been two avenues for comments and suggestions: the suggestion box near the coffee corner in room 7 and attendance at board meetings.

Now a new outlet for your suggestions and possible solutions has been suggested - a column in the newsletter. If you have anything on your mind, write a letter to DEAR OMNI and mail it to OMNILORE, P.O. Box 7000-236, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 or drop it in the COMMUNICATIONS box in the Classroom Kioset.

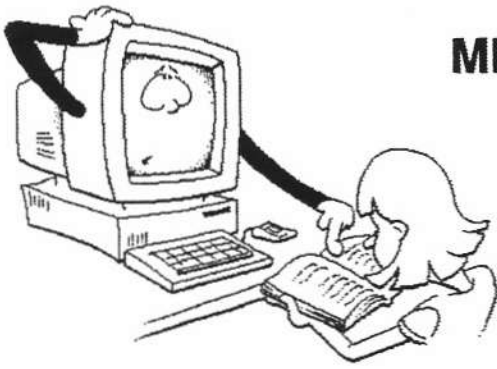


OmniLore News
Comments and input can be sent to:

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



MEMBER COMPUTER SURVEY



The OMNIOLORE Board of Directors is surveying all of its members to determine their level of computer ownership/usage/interest. The results of this survey will be used, in part, to evaluate upgrades of our existing computer system.

Please return this completed form to: OMNIOLORE, CSUDH
P. O. Box 7000-236
Redondo Beach, CA 90277
Attention: Administration

Return by March 17th

Name: _____

Or, place it in the box in Room 7 cabinet labeled Vice President, Administration.

Part I

1. Do you have a computer? Yes No
2. If you have a computer, what do you use it for?
 Internet Educational - Multi Media
 Word Processing Game Playing
 Financial Other: _____
3. In your opinion are you computer literate?
(1 = Least, 5 = Most) 1 2 3 4 5
4. Would you be willing to help other members move into the 21st century and become computer literate? Yes No
5. Is your computer: IBM or Compatible Macintosh Other

Part II

1. Are you going to buy a computer? Yes No
2. If (1) yes, are you going to get one soon? Yes No
3. If (1) yes, what kind: IBM or Compatible Macintosh Other

4. If (1) yes, what would you want to use it for? _____

5. If (1) yes, would you participate in an OMNIOLORE-sponsored learning experience or special interest group for computers? Yes No