



OMNIOLORE NEWS



Volume 24 Issue 6

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November 2015

DON'T MISS – IN THIS ISSUE

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He Calls it “Camp”:

Japanese-American Internment During World War II

by Marion Smith

A longtime member of Omnilore, Ehiichi (H.E.) Kamiya, was the speaker at Omnilore's annual Halloween-time forum on October 29. (He writes his first name “H.E.”, eliminating lots of confusion about pronouncing “Ehiichi.”) The last time he told his story at an Omnilore forum was about 15 years ago. It's the story of a Japanese-American who was old enough to live through and remember World War II.

He indicates that some people want his topic addressed as a tragedy; others call it history. Some people call his home for 3.5 years a “relocation camp.” Others call it an “internment camp.” H.E. and others call it simply “camp.” Because of his youth, it felt almost like going to summer camp for H.E.

How did Japanese immigrants come to the United States in the first place? Chinese men were brought to the U.S. during the Gold Rush period—to farm and to work on railroads. With the passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, Japanese people were brought to the U.S. to perform those same tasks. But unlike the by-now-excluded Chinese immigrants—mostly young men who planned to return home—the Japanese tended to immigrate as families and planned to stay.

H.E.'s family was from Okinawa. His father was born in 1908 and came here with his family in about 1910. He returned to Okinawa to go to school and then moved to Hawaii before seeking a permanent home in the U.S. At that time, the largest native Japanese populations were in California, Oregon, Washington, Colorado, and Texas.

It was not easy living in the U.S. as a Japanese immigrant. Racism cropped up in media and politics and influenced some hiring practices and opportunities for housing. The Immigration Act of 1924 was enacted to limit the number of immigrants, including Asians, to the U.S. According to Wikipedia, “Alien land laws were a series of legislative attempts to discourage Asian and other ‘non-desirable’ immigrants from settling permanently in U.S. states and territories by limiting their ability to own land and property.” Would you feel welcome under these circumstances?

Natural consequences of these attitudes were ghettos based upon language, culture, and religion. H.E.'s father was the principal of a Japanese school on Signal Hill. Most of his students lived in Lakewood, which was farmland at the time. Japanese-American residents had little contact with the outside world.

December 7, 1941: The attack on Pearl Harbor led to wartime hysteria and paranoia. Japanese-Americans were stunned. Their leaders were imprisoned. As it happens, H.E.'s family attended a wedding in LA's Little Tokyo on December 7. Some people were arrested during the wedding reception. H.E.'s father had U.S. citizenship, so he wasn't taken away. Whew.

Continued on page 4.

OMNIOLORE NEWS is a publication of OMNIOLORE, a Learning-in-Retirement Organization, a program of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the California State University Dominguez Hills.

OMNIOLORE NEWS is published six times annually. We welcome short feature articles and news stories. Please contact the editor with your contributions.

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| Editor | Mary Golob |
| Staff Member | Carol Kerster |

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Art Irizarry

Welcome, New Members

Omnilore is an easy-going, engaging experience intended for those with a sense of curiosity, a need for active learning, the drive to look for new and interesting information, and the enjoyment of social interaction based on shared knowledge and expertise. Our groups were designed to avoid the pressure of graduate school seminars, while retaining the enjoyment of shared learning. I want to keep this organizational culture and milieu in mind as we enter our new operating and learning year.

Beyond our study and discussion groups (S/DGs), which are at the core of our organizational structure and milieu, Omnilore is an intense all-day operation, a mini-bureaucracy and a learning adventure, a form of an extended SDG for all of us who are volunteers for its multi-faceted functions. The structure, vectors of action and miniscule details of Omnilore emerge as volunteers become immersed in Omnilore and its many parts. You are always welcome to get involved in whatever area you feel comfortable.

Omnilore's New Year, Something Old and New

Items on our 2015-2016 agenda include Omnilore facility issues, finances, continued programming improvements, increased quality in presentations, activity innovation and improvement of the interface with CSUDH and OLLI. Membership recruitment will be a major task as some long-term Omniloreans reduce their active participation. Although Omnilore membership tends to fluctuate, we need to maintain membership within a programmatic and financially viable range. We also want to invite individuals who will enjoy and contribute to the Omnilore experience.

Improvement in the quality of presentations has been significant.

Action has been taken and will continue toward fulfillment of that objective. Coordinator training was enhanced and a resource booklet developed for use by all members. That can help you and all SDG members access resources for presentation research and also augment the S/DG experience with supplemental activities beyond the Edison Center.

A comprehensive review of finances and work on our financial interface with CSUDH will continue into the new year. A list of items for action has been sent to our current CSUDH liaison and a meeting with the new financial director of the College of Extended and International Education has been set. Although the name of our new CSUDH liaison has not been announced as this is written, we look forward to setting up a good working relationship there.

This is how we begin our new operating year: more learning and another round of opportunities, possibilities and a challenge or two as our Board and legion of volunteers work to keep Omnilore relevant, meaningful and interesting for all of us. Change is part of any activity, group or institution intent on continuing into the future. We are in a time of change, which will require our collective creativity, skills, expertise, dedication and, most of all, collaboration. Any change, even the smallest degree, results in a sense of dislocation, actual or perceived, which can either be benign or generate a sense of unease, depending on the flexibility of our collective outlook. We will depend on our resilience and resourcefulness to channel change into constructive outcomes.

Looking Back, Moving Forward

During our 25th Anniversary celebratory year we revised our Bylaws, the Board revamped procedures and will continue its work into this new

Omnilore year. We made small program improvements not yet apparent and even experimented by including a string quartet performance at our July Forum.

Initially, there was some hesitation about not having a speaker, but many enjoyed the quartet performance and another possibility has opened for coming years. As we face or generate change, stability in Omnilore will come from our study/discussion groups, the diligence of our volunteer corps, and your own contribution toward making Omnilore as enjoyable and interesting for others as it is for yourself.

Our organizational structure and functions will provide strong underpinning as we face external stimuli for change. In 2014-2015 we had our first full year in our new facility, which started to feel more comfortable until we encountered a series of surprises. As a result, it remains a compelling item on our work agenda. Given our experience at the facility, it appears that truly functional space and cooperative management should be the basic criteria for any space in which we are located. We will continue efforts to satisfy those two basic criteria through CSUDH and our own efforts.

An almost complete change in personnel with whom we interface at CSUDH has complicated matters, even as this is being written. Concurrently, there have been changes to CSUDH procedures, which added to the challenge this past year and will remain so until all personnel are in place, settled into the processes and details of their positions and informed about Omnilore. We will strive to improve communications, which sometimes were disrupted as staff left. Working to secure what is best for Omnilore has been and will continue to be on our agenda.



Continued on page 3



**Computer Talks is Taking
November & December Off Due to the Holidays! Look
for Us in The January-February 2016 Newsletter**



Omnilore Profile—Frank & Yvette Reiner

by Kate Nelson

The city of Chicago's loss has been Omnilore's gain. Of course, I'm not talking about the Cubs, but about recent Chicago transplants, Frank and Yvette Reiner, who in their short time in Omnilore have certainly made their presence known.

The Reiners seem to be a pretty impressive team, and that might be because they've been working together for so long. They met at summer camp when Frank was 11 and Yvette a little younger. They connected again when both attended the University of Pittsburgh. Both had jobs as research assistants in the Medical School. "We x-rayed white mice tumors in a dark room together," Frank said romantically.

Yvette, originally a physical therapist, and Frank, a pharmacist, earned graduate degrees at different stages while raising their family. They each changed career directions and both entered hospital administration. Yvette ultimately was on the administrative staff at a major teaching hospital, and Frank was the Chief Operating Officer of an inner city community hospital.

Yvette still keeps her administrative skills sharp by working as a consultant for a national organization that provides management training for non-profits. She also has a small consulting practice helping people navigate their way through Medicare forms. "Have you seen Part D?" she asks. "The government couldn't have designed a form that is less senior-friendly." When she's not consulting or taking Omnilore classes, Yvette is volunteering for the League of Women Voters, serving on a Homeowners Association committee, doing aerobics, playing tennis and bridge. She wants to continue to do things that matter and those that keep her in shape. "I get bored with garbage," she says.

When I told Frank that I thought Yvette was pretty remarkable, he said, "I bask in the glory of my wife." But there's plenty of glory to go around. Frank began his career as a pharmacist in Washington, D.C. After graduate school, he worked in area-wide community health planning. "At a younger, more idealistic age, I went to Chicago to become the Director of Planning for a

hospital serving one of a patchwork of ethnic communities," he explained. Over the years, hospitals that once served European immigrants accommodated new waves of Puerto Rican, Mexican and African-American residents. Frank is proud of the fact that the hospital became a more vital and valued community resource center in a neighborhood troubled by poverty, gangs and crime. The area has since become a gentrified neighborhood called Wicker Park. Frank is retired, but is drawing on his professional experience to tackle problems as a board member of their 700-unit condo community. He also plays tennis and has been taking piano lessons.

When asked about how they are adjusting to life in California, Yvette says that she likes almost everything here: the weather, of course, and the fact that life is easy in the South Bay. Their two sons and families, one in Hermosa and one in Newport Beach, are a major draw, but they have clearly found many ways to become involved in their new community. Since they belonged to an organization similar to Omnilore in Chicago, they were able to hit the ground running when they moved here. Frank has served a term on the Omnilore Board and has coordinated several classes, including a new one focused on reading *The New Yorker* magazine.

It's too bad that the Cubs couldn't make it all the way to the World Series, but it seems to me that when Omnilore signed the Reiners, they hit it out of the park.



Message from the President—Continued from page 2.

Share Your Ideas, Thoughts, Suggestions, Recommendations—Email: Omnilore on the Subject Line

As we face change and challenge, your input is very important and I hope you will share freely by written note or email. A general questionnaire can be helpful but a written statement directly from you carries more value. Whoever formulates a questionnaire may not quite pick the question you want to answer. On the other hand, a written statement provides clear communication from you, where you can include suggestions, recommendations or comments based entirely on your own experience and judgment.

Feel free to email or write a note and put it in the President's box in the Room B cabinet. **If you email me, please write Omnilore on the subject line** to be sure I can easily identify it. While I have had the pleasure of becoming acquainted with a number of fellow Omniloreans, I do not always know full names. In fact, when communicating within our Omnilore community, it would be very helpful if you would **please write Omnilore on the subject line any time you communicate with other Omnilore members.** That will be one small improvement to our communication network and will help our effectiveness. Thank you for your part in making Omnilore a rewarding experience.

On behalf of Omnilore's Board, I wish you Happy Holidays and a Great New Year!

Continued from page 1.

There were calls for the internment of Japanese-Americans. Why? To prevent sabotage: “You can’t tell a person’s loyalty.” “They’re so inscrutable;” this was one of Earl Warren’s beliefs. Those in favor of internment included media (Hearst newspapers, in particular) and politicians. Those opposed to internment included the ACLU and the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers).

Here are some obvious questions about the internment:

Why were Japanese-Americans denied Sixth Amendment (fair and speedy trial) rights?

Why weren’t German-Americans and Italian-Americans interred?

Why were Japanese-Americans from Western states, but not Hawaii, interred?

A later FBI report on Japanese-Americans showed no evidence of sabotage or disloyal acts. This report was suppressed until the Freedom of Information Act of 1966 was passed.

On February 19, 1942, President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, authorizing the internment of American citizens having Japanese ancestry and resident aliens from Japan. Now what?

Most senior Japanese-American leaders were incarcerated.

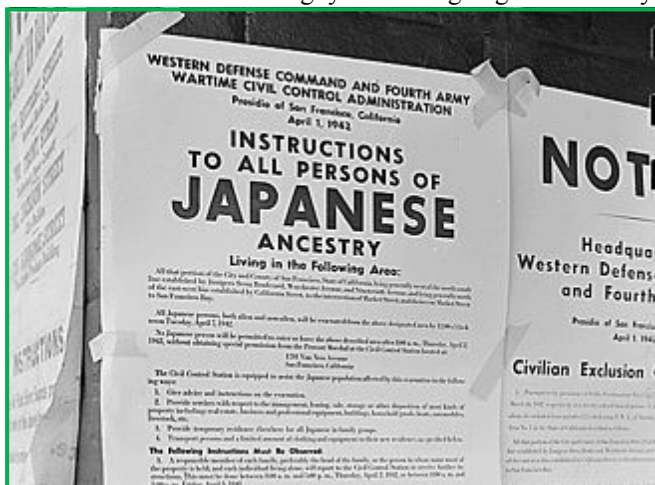
Younger Japanese-Americans had little leadership experience.

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) opted to not oppose evacuation orders.

H.E.’s father spent a couple of weeks in Terminal Island Prison. Why? He had Japanese language textbooks.

Some Japanese-Americans simply turned themselves in.

The Order to Evacuate was posted on billboards and telephone poles. You were told the date you had to evacuate and where to go. H.E.’s family was told to report to Ocean Boulevard in Long Beach on April 5. “Take only what you can carry...” What’s important to you? There was a baby in H.E.’s family, so his mom took diapers and baby food as essentials. You didn’t know how long you were going to be away



Internment notice posted April 1, 1942 in San Francisco stating that all Japanese people in the area will be evacuated in 6 days.

nor where are you going. If you’re going to Montana, you’re going to need winter clothes.

What about the belongings that you couldn’t carry with you? If you had a neighbor who was able to stay, you gave your house key to him for safekeeping. Or you could entrust your belongings to such a person. (Bear in mind, most Japanese-Americans did not know people who were not also Japanese-American.) Or you could put it all in storage, which H.E.’s parents did. What about your stamp or coin collections? They had to be left behind.

H.E. and his family moved to Santa Anita Park while camps were being readied for inhabitants. (Most of the temporary quarters were racetracks and fairgrounds.) H.E.’s father drove his family in the family car to Santa Anita, only to find out when he got there that he couldn’t keep a car at camp. Military sentries were assigned to the quarters, and a soldier bought the Kamiya car for \$25. Horse stalls were swept out and were assigned one per family. Stalls had varying sizes and were assigned based upon the size of a family. Each stall had one light bulb. There were cots but no bedding, so gunny sacks and hay were used as bed coverings. Pari-mutuel windows served as mess halls. H.E. ran around the track for exercise.

The U.S. established ten relocation camps, including two in California—Manzanar (now a national park) and Tule Lake. Though probably closest to a camp in Arizona, the Kamiyas were sent to Jerome, Arkansas, for one month and then finally interred at Rohwer, Arkansas. Close to the Mississippi and Arkansas Rivers, Rohwer was in effect a swampland. Here are some facts about the Rohwer camp:

- ◆ It looked like an Army camp.
- ◆ It was home to a community of 8,500 people in about one square mile.
- ◆ It was run by the War Relocation Authority (WRA).
- ◆ It had its own camp government, police department, fire department, and hospital.
- ◆ It had K-12 schools; teachers were Caucasians working as contractors.
- ◆ It boasted churches, Red Cross, Scouts, and a cemetery.
- ◆ It had a dry goods store and canteen.
- ◆ It had farms that were available for growing vegetables.
- ◆ There were no private vehicles.
- ◆ Oh yes: there were barbed wire and guard towers.

H.E. remembers enjoying a ride in an ambulance—his first motorized ride since going to Rohwer—though he was on his way to a hospital for treatment.

““But it wasn’t Southern California; here’s what he remembers:

- ◆ Spring: rain, rain. Worry: floods
- ◆ Summer: hot, humid. Worry: tornadoes

Continued on page 5.

Continued from page 4.

- ◆ Autumn: hot, windy. Worry: hurricanes
- ◆ Winter: cold, snow. Worry: frozen ground [which could be treacherous since it didn't necessarily look icy]
- ◆ Terrain: bayous, swamps
- ◆ Creepy, crawly critters: snakes, ticks, chiggers

And he remembers his schools:

- ◆ Teachers were Caucasians, though some were criticized for “teaching the ene- my.”
- ◆ Student activities included sports and band.

Each able-bodied man in the camp had to work (e.g., building furniture, lumberjacking). Pay was \$17/month for unskilled labor and \$19/month for skilled. Every “home” [stall] had one light bulb and a potbellied stove. Oh yeah: Rent was free.

Meanwhile, General Douglas McArthur was beginning to understand the important part young interred men could play in the war effort. In 1944, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT), an infantry unit composed primarily of American soldiers of Japanese ancestry, was formed. The 442nd RCT earned many medals fighting in France and Germany, being forbidden to fight in the Pacific theater. Many other men, deemed proficient in the Japanese language, were given intense language training and used in the Pacific theater, where they could ride in Army bombers and translate air traffic control communication.

In January 1945 the incarceration ended. H.E.'s father went home first “to test the water.” What returnees found was changes to their old neighborhoods (no more ghettos) and anti-Japanese propaganda in media and movies. As you can imagine returnees faced numerous challenges: housing, jobs, starting businesses, and many others. This resulted in many returnees moving to other cities and states. (By the way, H.E.'s father's stamp collection went into storage before the family's move to camp, but he was never able to recover it.)

H.E., his wife Donna, and their children (ages 7 and 4 at the time) returned to Rohwer thirty years later—in 1975. They found the camp, including 38-11-A (his family's room). He especially enjoyed meeting with locals, saying it was fascinating to hear stories from “the other side of the fence.” Some locals mentioned being envious of the electric lights and plumbing in the camp. After the visit H.E. wrote an article for Rohwer newspapers, and a historical museum has now been started there.

Here are a kid's (H.E.'s) memories of camp: fishing, hunting, exploring, and playing with darts and marbles. (H.E. could crawl under fences to fish and hunt when guards weren't watching. He made a bamboo fishing pole and a slingshot for hunting.)

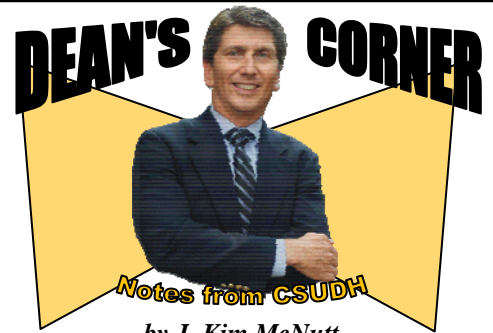
What did the experience teach Japanese-Americans?

- ◆ That they had to demonstrate outwardly that they were loyal American citizens;
- ◆ That they had to join mainstream America;
- ◆ Some went on to be 110% Americans—super achievers.

The lesson for all Americans: Beware of ignorance and racism. As governor, Earl Warren said: “We don't want them back.” Fortunately, he had a different view as a Supreme Court Justice.

H.E. closed his talk with these points:

- ◆ The Internment was just one episode in the lives of Japanese-Americans.



*by J. Kim McNutt
Dean, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
College of Extended & International Education
CSUDH*

Season's Greetings!

As I wrote in the last Dean's Corner, the period from Labor Day through New Year's is my favorite time of year. Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas (or whatever you choose to celebrate) occur in this time frame. I'm an avid college and pro football fan. My favorite team plays the Dallas Cowboys every Sunday. I follow the PAC 12 and support the Seattle Seahawks in their quest for another Super Bowl appearance.

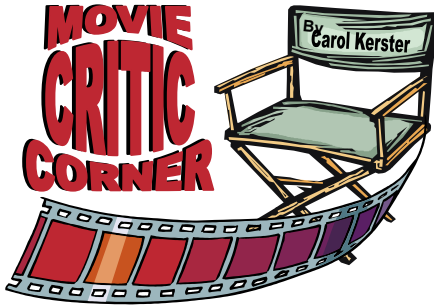
In other news and as of this writing in late October, I've selected La Margo Washington to serve as the part time OLLI coordinator. He is a current member and ambassador. He will assist with the administrative functions and help out with membership marketing. Please welcome him aboard!

Thanksgiving is a time to be with family or friends and reflect on all the good that happens in our life on a daily basis. The Winter Holiday is another time of happiness, joy, reflection and offers us all the chance to give more than we receive. The joy of giving does not always mean tangible or physical gifts. We can offer our time, knowledge, expertise and passion. That is what members of Omnilore and OLLI give, by way of a lecture, course or field trip.

Thanks to all of you who give the gift of lifelong learning. I wish you all a happy, safe holiday season, and may 2016 be the best year yet.

- ◆ This was just one person's view of the Internment, a young one at that.
- ◆ There are others who are more political, more bitter, more racist.
- ◆ But that's the nature of history...

H.E.'s talk was wonderful: terrifying and at the same time entertaining. Let's not wait 15 years to have him tell his story again!



While it is obvious that a film starring Tom Hanks, and directed by Steven Spielberg would be better than good, I was more than surprised by the two plus hours of *Bridge of Spies*. In fact, I was quite enthralled by, and immersed in this depiction of a real event that took place in 1957, at the height of the Cold War with Russia. It was not only an exciting depiction of an actual event, it reminded me of some personal experiences my husband and I had regarding what seemed trivial, but were deadly serious security measures: loyalty oaths, and background checks were mandatory for our respective professions.

About the film: a very straight-laced,

successful attorney, Jim Donovan (Hanks) is chosen to defend a suspected Soviet spy, living an apparently quiet, respectable life. The suspect, Rudolph Abel, is inevitably convicted. How could he not have been, with a judge who says "He'll receive due process, and, God willing, he'll be convicted." But he was sentenced to prison, rather than to execution. The subsequent hostility heaped upon Donovan, did not stop him from being asked to negotiate a prisoner exchange: the Russian for an American pilot, Francis Gary Powers, captured in East Germany during an actual spy mission. Add to this desired swap, a rather hapless young American student, caught on the wrong side of the Eastern Wall, at the wrong time, and becoming another pawn in this deadly game.

The back and forth negotiations take place in the USA, East Berlin and Russia, amid the chaos of war-damaged cities, wall construction impeded by unwilling citizens, wondrous new military planes soaring over vast expanses of land and sea, and more. Kudos to the cinematographer, Janusz Kamiski, and,

of course to Spielberg and the writers, Joel and Ethan Cohen and Matt Charman.

I will not spoil the outcome for those of you who have yet to see the film. But I must say a few words about the stars. Other actors could have easily "gone over the top." Tom Hanks did not; he was controlled, constrained and immeasurably satisfying to watch...a true master of his craft. Mark Rylance, unrecognizable here despite his stunning depiction of Thomas Cromwell in the PBS Masterpiece, "Wolf Hall", was breathtaking. Rylance sets the standard in the film's opening scene, sitting alone in his shabby New York apartment, completely absorbed in painting a self-portrait with brush, paint and mirror, not displaying one iota of concern about anything outside the room. This piece alone is worth the price of admission, and his every appearance afterwards, is "a minimalist wonder."

A film without aliens, vampires, animation, violence and gratuitous sex is a film "...devotedly to be wished."

Enjoy!

AED TRAINING CALL

by Frank Reiner

Several years ago, Omnilore purchased a portable defibrillator device that is available in the kitchen area behind Conference Room B. Since that time we have conducted periodic training for those willing to become certified. The goal is to have many members who would be able to provide immediate help in the case of a medical emergency while waiting for paramedics to respond to a 911 call.

The classes are taught by a paramedic member of the Redondo Fire Department and certification is valid for two years. Would you please consider volunteering for this training? While we hope never to be called upon to use this skill, it could be a life-saving moment for not only a fellow Omnilorean, but possibly a friend or family member.

Our next training class is being held on November 13th. However, as we go to press, this session has been fully subscribed. If you are interested in participating in a future training session, please contact either of us below, and you will be contacted in advance. On behalf of those you care about, thanks!

Frank Reiner—Frankreiner2@gmail.com—310-648-8951

Jim Slattery—jbslat@verizon.net—542-2361



The morns are meeker than they were,
The nuts are getting brown;
The berry's cheek is plumper,
The rose is out of town.
The maple wears a gayer scarf,
The field a scarlet gown.
Lest I should be old-fashioned,
I'll put a trinket on.
- Emily Dickinson, *Nature 27 - Autumn*

Autumn is a second spring when every
leaf is a flower.
- Albert Camus

Change is a measure of time and, in the autumn,
time seems speeded up. What was is not and
never again will be; what is is change.
- Edwin Teale

I prefer winter and fall, when
you feel the bone structure of
the landscape - the loneliness of
it, the dead feeling of winter.
Something waits beneath it, the
whole story doesn't show.
- Andrew Wyeth

Omnilore's 24th Annual Meeting & Luncheon



1. Dennis Bosch, our new Treasurer and second-place winner in the costume contest; 2. Dale & Howard Korman, as Mr. & Mrs. Darth Vader and first-place winners; 3. John Stevens; 4. Dale & Dick Johnson as the winning pair—21; 5. Diana Cutler; 6. Sharon Siegelman; 7. Leila Jennings; 8. Janet & Larry Brown; 9. Jeanne Wilson, as a fancy witch; 10. Rick & Lori Spillane; 11. Steve Miller being attacked by brain-eating zombie Bill Gargaro; 12. Helen Leven and Nancy Shannon, greeters; 13. Ralph Black and Lynn Taber.





1. Charles Golden as Howard Stern; 2. our speaker, H.E. Kamiya, his wife Donna and niece Candace Moriyama; 3. Norman Morris; 4. Maria Ruiz; 5. Daniel & Mary Gluck; 6. Maggie Wilkinson and Margaret Thelen; 7. Judith Sommerstein; 8. Pauline Corliss and Janet Hironaka; 9. Ronnie & Carlos Lemmi; 10. Chuck Herring; 11. Judy Bayer and Eddy Bay; 12. Ellen Orenstein with her Freudian Slip (notice the words); 13. Mary Golob; 14. Linda Jenson and Florence Murphy; 15. Cordelia Hwang and Marion Smith, best friends for life.



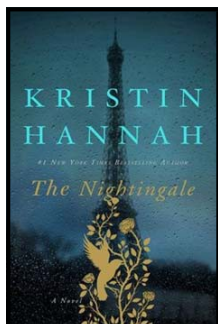


Best Sellers SIG Reads Through The Winter

by Patricia Edie & Cindy Eggert

Need some items for your Holiday Gift Suggestion List? How about the books scheduled to be read and discussed by the Best Sellers Special Interest Group in the coming months?

Each month, on the second Monday of the month, about 20 plus members and guests meet in Conference Room B from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm to discuss the chosen book for the month. We alternate each month between various works of fiction and non-fiction. The subject matter is varied and the discussion always animated. Upcoming dates and book selections are:

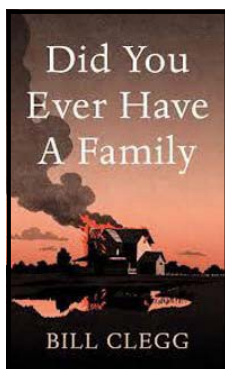


Monday, November 9: Fiction

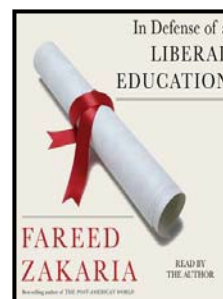
The Nightingale
by Kristin Hannah

Monday,
January 11:
Fiction

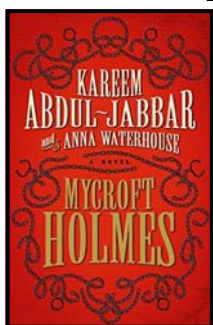
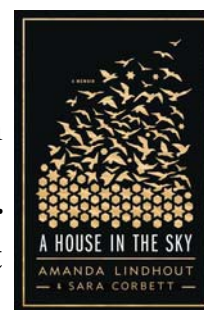
Did You Ever Have a Family
by Bill Clegg



Monday, December 14:
Non-Fiction
In Defense of a Liberal Education
by Fared Zakaria



Monday, February 8:
Non-Fiction
A House in the Sky: A Memoir
by Amanda Lindhout



Monday, March 14:
Fiction

Mycroft Holmes
by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

As with any SIG, you do not need to register to participate...just show up on the date prepared to participate. Guests are always welcomed.



News from OLLI at CSUDH

by Janice Champion

**Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) California
State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH)**

www.csudh.edu/olli



Plans are well underway for the spring 2016 semester. Many old favorites are returning, including the *Osher Lecture Series*, *Social Tennis for Seniors*, *Plants of the South Bay*, *Crocheting*, *Book Club*, *Gardening*, and *Living Well for Older Adults*. In the Great Courses discussion groups, we will concentrate on nutrition, continuing the *Science of Natural Healing* series and starting a new series entitled *How to Boost Your Physical and Mental Energy*. In addition, we will continue our *TED Talks at Lunch* program between the two classes.

February is Black History Month, and we will be offering several lectures on this topic. Also in February, we have the *Travel Workshop* and a new lecture on *Traveling by Air with a Disability*.

Our art classes will return in March and we are adding a class in poetry writing. We will be replacing bird watching with our new *Urban Hikes around the South Bay*. Also new is a workshop on Excel.

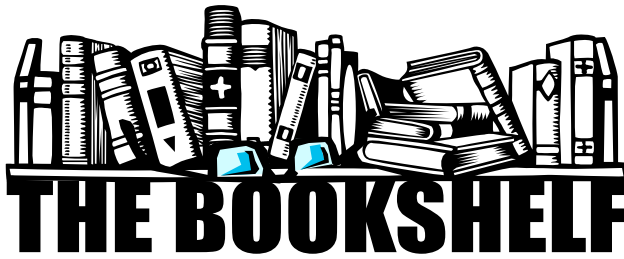
In April, we will hold our annual *Poetry Faire*, our *Members' Meeting* and our annual *CSUDH Library Tour*.

We have several field trips planned for the spring, including a trip to the El Segundo Automobile Museum and one to the Flightpath Museum at LAX.

You are welcome to join us on January 26 from 10 am to noon when we hold our Open House followed by registration.

Remember that OLLI at CSUDH also has a newsletter (an e-newsletter). Read it at <http://www4.csudh.edu/olli/SharedAdventures/index> or just go to the OLLI web site (<http://www4.csudh.edu/olli>) and click on the 'Shared Adventures' link. You can also read the PDF form of our current catalog at the OLLI web site.

We wish you all a productive 2016.



Lily King's fourth novel, *Euphoria* is her first book of historical fiction, inspired by the few months spent together by three renowned anthropologists in 1933. The three are Margaret Mead (already world renowned and controversial for "Coming of Age in Samoa"), Reo Fortuna and Gregory Bateson, called in the book Nell, Fen and Bateson. A minor character is one based on the somewhat older Ruth Benedict.

All three are working with undiscovered tribes in New Guinea in three distinct ways of studying cultures. e.g. "Fen didn't want to study the natives, he wanted to BE a native." For a few months on the river this complex collaboration becomes a three way relationship rife with intellectual competition, professional jealousy, ego and sexual tension. (After finishing the book, I discovered that Fortuna and Bateson were Mead's second and third husbands).

Much of the novel is detailed notebook entries describing Nell's experiences with winning over the children and then be-friending the women. As a woman, she was largely forbidden from interacting with the men. She sees that the women have ambition, make their own money and are not reticent. She sees a reversal of sex roles. Her husband, Fen, disagrees.

This reader was especially enthralled by the sensuality of King's descriptive gifts: oil and sweat on skin, the fetid smell of humanity inside a house with cloth curtains – without soaps or washing and without doctors to remove rotted teeth;

the heat and clouds of mosquitoes, the sound of gongs.

The story of the character Xambun in the novel embodies the colonialism of the era: the child was lured by false promises of the mine owners, was treated as a slave at the mine, made a perilous escape upriver to home and then tried to hide it all from his family, to whom he was returning in glory. Ultimately, sadly, he was exploited by one of the anthropologists.

The euphoria of the title is experienced, according to Nell, at about two months into the exploration of a tribe, when suddenly one feels like she's finally got a handle on the place, when it feels within one's grasp. "Euphoria," the novel, allows the reader glimpses of people and cultures with a variety of orientations, practices, and, in Western parlance, values. It is a fascinating read.

Your Life Can Be Better, by **Douglas A. Puryear**. The title, admittedly, could be a little less . . . something. But the insights given on Adult ADD by the author, a psychiatrist with ADD himself, turn out to be not only useful, but charmingly presented.

Four Focus Points. Personal interest, Novelty, Challenge, Short deadlines with consequences. These are interests of non-ADD people as well, but not to the extent of ADD folk, who are so self-indulgent about the big four that they tend to shoot themselves in the foot by not doing the important things in a timely and "professional" (read "BO-ring") manner.

Why Read It? You might read it because someone you care about seems to have ADD symptoms. Or you may wonder if you yourself might be "afflicted" (read "lucky") and could make good use of some of the strategies he

suggests. The author says he didn't realize he had ADD himself until he was 64.

It hasn't escaped me that Omniloreans, who thrive on grabbing a new topic and running with it every trimester like a cat after a laser dot, might fall into this lively category. It might even itself be a topic for a class, a kind of consciousness-raising like a recent and fun class on introversion! See what you think.

I ran across a stand-alone novel by **Faye Kellerman: Moon Music** published in 1998. Her main character is Las Vegas Homicide Detective Romulus Poe, a free thinker who lives in the desert, cherishing his roots, people and beliefs. This is so well done, it reminds me how much I miss Tony Hillerman and his descriptive stories of folks in the Four Corners area. Poe leads a team of seasoned detectives to solve serial killings that have been plaguing America's sin city, and plunging him into the heart of a bizarre, full moon-soaked mystery that could cost him everything he holds dear in life, including his sanity. Interwoven with other histories of the area is that of the nuclear bomb testing in the 1950s, the effects of which are influencing lives today.

Book suggestions from Omniloreans make this column work. Thanks to Margery Norris and Rich Mansfield for contributing to this month's list. Please send your titles, with author's name and a brief description to Johan (johansmith@ca.rr.com). Please put "Omnilore Books" as the subject of your email. We look forward to hearing from you.

Limerick for Cro-Magnon Course
by Dale Johnson

A Cro-Magnon beauty named Fay
In the woods met Neanderthal Ray.
With a smile and a wave,
They found a small cave;
And today we have their DNA.

The Next
Conf.
Room B

INTRODUCING OMNIOLORE MEETING:

Thursday, November 19th - 10 a.m.

Help Spread the Word! RSVP 310-514-1415



| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|---|
| November | 1 | Return to Standard Time |
| | 3 | Election Day |
| | 9 | Best Sellers Book Group—12 Noon-1 p.m., Conf. Rm. B |
| | 11 | Veterans Day (Edison Center closed) |
| | 12 | Board of Directors Meeting—12 Noon-2 p.m., Conf. Rm. B |
| | 13 | AED Training—9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., see article page 6 for location. |
| | 19 | Introducing Omnilore Meeting—10 a.m.-12 Noon, Conf. Rm. B |
| | 23-27 | Thanksgiving Break (Edison Center closed) |
| December | 6 | Hanukkah |
| | 10 | Board of Directors Meeting—12 Noon-2 p.m., Conf. Rm. B |
| | 11 | Equipment Training—1:15 p.m., Room 6 |
| | 14 | Best Sellers Book Group—12 Noon-1 p.m., Conf. Rm. B |
| | 15 | Input Deadline for January-February 2016 Newsletter |
| | 18 | Walking Group: Holiday Hike & Lunch—10 a.m.-2 p.m. |
| | 21-Jan. 1 | Winter Recess (Edison Center closed) |
| | 25 | Christmas Day |

2016 Forums
 Winter—January 29th
 Spring—April 29th
 Summer—July 29th
 Annual Mtg.—October 31st

IMPORTANT:
Calendar changes and additions
are scheduled with Lynn Taber
johnlyntaber@gmail.com

OMNIOLORE CALENDAR 2015

Christmas



Hanukkah

Equipment DO's and DON'Ts

Here are some reminders concerning using our Omnilore presentation equipment. Most reflect adaptations to our shared environment at the Edison Center. Please help spread the word.

- 1. DO:** Use our microphone system in the black carrying case in each classroom. It provides 3 choices of mics – handheld, headset, and lavalier. Many of our members have trouble hearing in Rooms 5 and 6, but are shy about asking for voice amplification. Let's just assume some class member will appreciate it and get in the habit of setting up the mic system and offering it to every speaker. Place the speaker box at front of the room, plug it in, and aim it at the wall, facing away from the class — this reduces feedback and static.
- 2. DO:** Store equipment on the labeled shelf that is the next-to-the-top large shelf in each classroom: projector, desktop presenter, laptop, laptop speakers, microphone system, and spindle with extension cord & power strip. This set of primary equipment all fits on that one shelf. Cables and electrical cords are tagged – **DO** store each with the piece of equipment designated by its tag. Extra VGA cables may be stored on door hooks in Rooms 5 and 6.
- 3. DO:** Store Ziploc bag with Apple adapters with the projector. Otherwise they will not be easily found by members bringing in their own devices. We have an adapter for every device.
- 4. DO:** Bring in your own laptop (or tablet) if you have one and show your presentation from it to reduce the risk of incompatibility problems. Otherwise, bring your presentation on a memory stick (*thumb drive, flash drive*) and use one of Omnilore's laptops which all have Microsoft Office and LibreOffice (*OpenOffice*) installed.
- 5. DO:** In case of laptop failure, find backup laptop on top shelf of your classroom's equipment closet laptop (*one backup laptop shared between Rooms 5 & 6*). And, find backup projector, backup desktop presenter (*white*), Omnilore's Macintosh laptop, and even a VCR player on the top shelf in our Conf. Hall Kitchen storage cabinet — but **DO** be sure to return them to the Kitchen after usage.
- 1. DON'T** unplug the projector until, after hitting the On/Off button twice, waiting until the fan stops and the orange light goes solid. (*It blinks during cool-down, which takes approx. one minute.*)
- 2. DON'T** try to shutdown our Internet hotspots (*one in each classroom*). They are supposed to be plugged in and "On" all the time.
- 3. DON'T** use any equipment on the wheeled carts in Rooms 5 and 6. They belong to the South Bay Adult School and are off limits for us.
- 4. DON'T** forget to store the coffee pot and other kitchen/snack supplies back on the lower shelves before locking the equipment closet.
- 5. DON'T** try to "fix" any piece of Omnilore's equipment yourself. Please.

Please Email Equipment@Omnilore.org with any problems, questions, or suggestions concerning our presentation equipment. Six of us read that email address.

Equipment Training is Scheduled for Friday, December 11, at 1:15 p.m. in Room 6.