



# OMNILORE NEWS

Volume 6 Issue 5

September 1997

## OMNILORE NEWS

A publication of OMNILORE, 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 Blanche Fleming Peggy Houghton Ronnie Saunders Joyce Zima
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## HEAR YE! HEAR YE! OMNILORE ANNUAL MEETING



### DR. ANN HARMER TO DISCUSS IMMUNE SYSTEM AT ANNUAL MEETING OCT. 23

Dr. Ann Harmer, associate professor of biological sciences at Orange Coast College, will discuss "The Enigma of the Immune System" at the OMNILORE annual meeting to be held Thursday, October 23 at 11:30 a.m. at the Torrance Marriott Hotel.

A faculty member at Orange Coast College for the past 16 years, Dr. Harmer was named OCC Teacher of the Year in 1996 and was listed in the 1996 edition of "Who's Who Among America's Teachers."

She has served as a member of the Faculty Mentoring Committee since 1990 and the Early Alert Committee since 1991. In addition, she has been advisor to the Pre-Health Professional Student Club since 1988 and was co-founder of the South Coast Chapter, Association for Women in Science. She currently serves as a member of the Orange Coast College Foundation Board.

In 1992, she received a \$57,000 grant from the Hoag Family Foundation, Los Angeles, to construct and equip a Plastination Laboratory; and in 1995 she received a \$122,000 instrumentation grant from the National Science Foundation to establish an interactive multimedia laboratory for the college's Biological and Health Sciences Department.

During the business meeting preceding the luncheon, members will elect officers and adopt by-law changes. (Advance copies of the proposed slate and proposed changes will be sent to members by mail later this month.) Cost of the luncheon including tax and tip will be \$16. Members will have their choice of poached salmon (cold) or chicken dijon (hot). Dessert and beverage are included.

Persons planning to attend are asked to fill out the reservation form on page 4 and return by October 16 to Gloria Jacobs, treasurer at 5206 Via El Serene, Torrance, CA 90505. (CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO FRIENDS OF OMNILORE (not Omnilore)).

Luncheon committee members include: Marie Huntley, chairman, Margaret Koch, Virginia Levanas, Hal Fenton, Norm Rosen, Sunny Golombek, Edith Garvey, and Gloria Jacobs.

Dr. Harmer has suggested that members who wish to read about the immune system beforehand look into one of the following: the article "Sharks and the Origins of Vertebrate Immunity" in the November 1996 issue of Scientific American, the book "At War Within" by William R. Clark (Oxford University Press, 1995), or the book "A Commotion in the Blood" by Stephen S. Hall (Holt & Co., 1997).

**COLLOQUIUM COMMITTEE**

by Ellen Bradford Member of the Writers' Workshop Press Corps

Colloquium (ka-lo-kwe-am) is defined by the American Heritage dictionary as "an informal meeting on a broad range of study, usually led by a different lecturer."

That might sound easy, but Omnimore's Colloquium Committee faces a major challenge to select subjects of interest to the group's wide and diverse interests and backgrounds. So far they have been successful with presentations on the oceans of the world, economics, the future, modern myths, communications, genetics and many others.

Chairman Emil Raulin says that this committee each year gathers suggestions for Colloquium speakers for the fall, winter and spring meetings. Besides suggestions from the committee members and other Omnimore members, they find great speakers at the Southern California Elderhostels and local colleges and universities. Committee members Vi Graham and Ethel Alien visit and listen to the speakers and, if they like what they hear, make recommendations. "They must be good," said Graham. After discussion, the committee chooses the speakers and the subjects they feel will be the most enjoyable for Omnimore members.

The next step is to find a suitable date and place. The Palos Verdes library has proven to be the most satisfactory. "We go by evaluations from the membership and it is the most popular place," said Raulin.

"We have had great speakers in the past, and we plan to find even more popular subjects in the future. We want people that we feel can present a subject of interest to our group."

The committee looks for variety of subjects, themes, and types of presentations. The upcoming talk on "The Enigma of the Immune System," will be a radical departure from the last colloquium which was on Shakespeare.

Besides the lecture sessions, the committee is looking for a field trip idea for this coming year. "Last year's trip to JPL to learn about the Mars probe was a terrific success," said Raulin. "We are looking for one with an educational experience. Of course, the Getty Museum is what we're hoping for," he added, "but the arrangements have not yet been made."

Joyce Zima added that, "What we need is someone in Omnimore with access or a special "in" to an exciting and interesting place that we can visit. Sunny Golombek's son was able to allow us to visit JPL, and we did appreciate it very much."

Most of the lectures have been taped by California State University at Dominguez Hills students. Raulin hopes that the tapes will be made available in the Omnimore classroom for members who may have missed a lecture.

The present committee members are: Emil Raulin and Patricia Morris (co-chairs), Ronnie Saunders, Vi Graham, Ethel Alien, Hank Steddorn, and Joyce Zima.

*(This article is one of the series on Omnimore committees)*

**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.

On September 18 we will talk about the new cigarette agreements. Have people really been duped by the manufacturers, or are smokers simply choosing to do something that everyone should know is unhealthy? Is the pendulum going to swing too far now, or are the companies only getting what they deserve?

On October 16 let's discuss the new tax laws. Do you understand them? Are they going to help you? How are they going to affect our IRA withdrawals and estate taxes, etc? Let's see if we can share some insights.

I'm always open for suggestions on topics. Give me a call at (310) 377-4989.

**BOOK REQUEST FORMS DEVELOPED**

To enable coordinators to easily request books from local bookstores, a special book request form has been developed.

Copies have been sent to all incoming coordinators. If any coordinator did not receive one or needs additional copies, please contact the Omnimore clerk, Johan Smith at (310) 215-1848

**IN MEMORIAM**

OMNIOLORE Laura Bondurer died July 28 at a local hospital. A Redondo Beach resident for 27 years, Laura was a retired teacher at UCLA and a life member of the Vocational Education Teachers Association. She is survived by her husband, daughter and two sons.

**MISSING VIDEOTAPES**

The OMNIOLORE sleuth has been unable to locate videotapes filmed at several colloquia. If you have located a missing tape, please return it to Patricia Morris, Colloquium Chairman at (310) 541-8378. After Patricia receives the tapes they will be shown to members who missed the original presentations at a special meeting or at a hot topics session.

**Omniole Profiles**

**Carol Johnson**

Carol Johnson is a woman who enjoys the best of both worlds. Not only does she enjoy the perks of partial retirement, but she also works three days a week as a computer programmer for the Rand Corporation. In addition, although she makes her home in Manhattan Beach, she also is part owner (together with her two sisters) of a little country home on a fjord in Norway--160 acres near Mo i Rana, just south of the arctic circle.

Born on a farm in North Dakota, Carol moved to the town of Williston with her mother and sisters when she was ten years old following her father's death.

Throughout her childhood Carol, whose mother gave each of her girls a Norwegian first name and an American middle name, was known as Gerd.

After she finished her freshman year at the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks, she took a year off to work and travel to Norway with her mother and sisters before returning to college. (At that time she spoke Norwegian fluently. Five years ago she learned to read books in Norwegian at the Sons of Norway lodge in the San Fernando Valley.)

After receiving her bachelor of sci-

ence degree in mathematics at North Dakota State University, Carol was hired by Boeing in Seattle to be trained as a computer programmer. While in Seattle, where she lived for six years, she discovered Scandinavian folk dancing, studying under the man who introduced SKANDIA folk dance to this country.

She moved to Southern California as a bride and began her career at Rand Corporation in 1969. Her favorite project at Rand lasted 13 years and was financed by the Dutch government. During that time Carol helped develop a hydrodynamic model to be used by the Netherlands in making decisions on scheduling the building of sluices to prevent flooding. The project necessitated numerous trips to the Netherlands where she taught Dutch engineers how to use the model. As a result of the project her supervisor was awarded the equivalent of a knighthood by the queen of the Netherlands.

Carol continued her involvement in Scandinavian dancing after moving to Southern California. In addition, she added English country dancing and Scottish country dancing to her repertoire, attending

folk dance classes four times a week during the school year and participating in folk dance camps summers, both here and in Scandinavia. For three years she taught English country dance in Santa Monica. In 1991 she danced in Norway, Denmark and Sweden and in 1994 attended a folk-dance camp in Sweden. This summer she participated in a folk dance camp near Mendocino.

Thanks to relatives who have researched the family's genealogy, she can trace her roots back almost 300 years. She has 16 living Scandinavian cousins and has met them all. For the past four years she has enjoyed sending annual Christmas letters in Norwegian to relatives abroad.

Besides working at Rand, folk dancing, and attending OMNIOLORE classes for the past year, Carol enjoys making crossword puzzles on a crossword computer, making furniture, and recycling appliances into furniture. She has transformed a dishwasher into a kitchen island, a television console into a linen cabinet, and has found ways to recycle a microwave and a radio-phonograph.

**THE COMMITTEE MEETING BLUES**



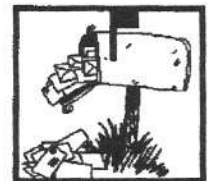
Oh, give me your pity, I'm on a committee,  
Which means that from morning till night  
We attend, and amend, and contend and defend,  
Without a conclusion in sight.  
We confer and concur, we defer and demur,  
And reiterate all of our thoughts.  
We revise the agenda with frequent addenda,  
And consider a load of reports.  
We compose and propose, we suppose and oppose,  
And points of procedure are fun!  
But though various notions are brought up as motions,  
There's terribly little gets done.  
We resolve and absolve, but we never dissolve,  
Since it's out of the question for us.  
What a shattering pity to end our committee,  
Where else could we make such a fuss?

*Anonymous*

**Editors' Note:**

To anyone preparing information for the newsletter, if your article is composed on an IBM compatible computer it would be greatly appreciated if you would submit on a 3 1/2 or 5 1/4 disk with a notation as to software used. If you have any questions please call Ginger Engstrom (310) 832-7333

**Omniole News**  
Comments and input can be sent to



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



**OMNILORE ANNUAL MEETING**

WHEN: Thursday, October 23, 1997 @ 11:30am  
WHERE: Torrance Marriott Hotel

Reservations are required - by October 16th please!

**ANNUAL MEETING LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS**

Please make \_\_\_\_\_ reservations for the Omnilore Luncheon and Annual Meeting

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ people at \$16 per person

Lunch selection: Poached Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Dijon \_\_\_\_\_

I cannot attend. Please send an absentee ballot to:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Please make out checks to Friends of Omnilore

Send to: Gloria Jacobs, Treasurer  
5206 Via El Sereno  
Torrance, Ca. 90505

**WE WANT TO KNOW . .**



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. Please notify Marie Huntley at (310) 376-6261 or a member of the Executive Committee

**CALENDAR**

- September
  - 1 Labor Day
  - 4 Board of Directors Meeting
  - 8 Fall Study/Discussion Groups Begin
  - 15 Spring Study/Discussion Topic Suggestion Forms Distributed
- October
  - 2 Rosh Hashanah
  - 9 Board of Directors Meeting
  - 11 Yom Kippur
  - 15 Deadline for November Newsletter
  - 17 Deadline for Spring Study/Discussion Topic Suggestions
  - 20 Distribution of Proposed Spring S/D Topics
  - 23 Omnilore Annual Meeting
  - 31 Deadline for Spring Study/Discussion Registration
- November
  - 5 Full Day Study Trip

