



# OMNILORE NEWS



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## OLLI AT CSUDH OMNILORE

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

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

Editor	Diana Cutler
Staff Member	Carol Kerster

## DO YOU KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR? or "GETTING TO KNOW YOU"

by Carol Kerster

There is such an abundance of news about the Mideast, Asia, and Europe in all media, we are likely to forget the importance of the continent that shares part of our name...South America. As Nature tends to fill a vacuum, Omnilore intends to fill some gaps in our knowledge of this significant neighbor at our first Forum Luncheon Meeting of 2010.



Lyman Chaffee

The absence of democracy in Latin America is not news. However, it may be news that change is beginning: democratic action is starting to take place in some countries. How it started, and how it has gotten as far as it has, will be the focus of the presentation of our speaker, Dr. Lyman Chaffee. His reference points are sure to be both interesting and surprising. They are the anti-Catholic Church revolution of Mexico, 1910-1920, and changing attitudes about the Church and the military throughout Latin America. It is likely that another part of his presentation, the ethnic make-up of South America, may come as a surprise as well.

As is our custom, we have chosen an expert in the topic to be our speaker. Dr. Chaffee has been a member of the political science faculty at Cal State Dominguez Hills since 1969, where he teaches Latin American and International Politics, and has served as Chair of that Department. In addition to his academic training, a Bachelor's Degree from Occidental College and a Ph.D from the University of California, Riverside, Dr. Chaffee's education was supplemented by having lived in Argentina for two years, and by having traveled to Brazil many times over a 10 year period. He can "get along" in Portuguese, which is spoken in South America as much as is Spanish, in which he is fluent.

As usual, the Forum will be held at the Los Verdes Country Club, with registration starting at 11:30 a.m.. Also as usual, the lecture will follow lunch, which this time will NOT be usual. In keeping with the theme of the presentation, we will be treated to a Mexican Fiesta, which promises to be very tasty. Of course, a vegetarian version will be available, and both are at the same bargain price of \$18.00.

Please register via the form on page 9 of this newsletter, or by the one you will receive soon in regular mail. (I have no clue as to the color that will be, but I expect it will be noteworthy!)

### DON'T MISS — IN THIS ISSUE

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**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

by Ruth Hart

I hope that all of you had a happy holiday season and are ready to begin another stimulating trimester. This month I want to address the topic of presentations. I will state at the outset that these opinions are my own and may not be shared by all Omniloreans – in fact, I know they are not. I welcome feedback on this column – if appropriate, alternative viewpoints may be published in the next issue of the newsletter.

Omnilore was founded as an organization devoted to “active learning” at the college level. Because of this, our only requirement for members has always been that they give a presentation based on their own research. But what does the phrase “give a presentation” mean? Traditionally, it has meant a formal presentation that may or may not be accompanied by PowerPoint slides or other visual aids. While history and science classes may be well suited to this model, some of our other S/DGs may benefit from different kinds of presentations.

I believe that, just as not all college classes are identical, there are less traditional models of presentation that meet the overall Omnilore objectives and may be just as informative and, perhaps, more effective. The bottom line is that I believe that there is no single “correct” presentation method. The subject matter and individual preferences will both contribute to the ultimate format of the presentation. The length and form of the presentation do not necessarily reflect the amount of research and preparation that preceded it nor the educational value of the discussion that ensues.

Consider, for example, our very popular Documentary Movies S/DG. I have been in this S/DG in two different trimesters and found both sessions to be among the most stimulating and educational S/DGs I have taken. In these S/DGs, members watch the movies at home and then discuss them in class. Normally, the presenter has two roles. First, (s)he gives a brief presentation on the subject matter of the film, the director, etc. A

summary of the plot is not necessary because everyone has already viewed the film. However, S/DG members generally agree that the most valuable part of this class is the discussion of the issues that the movie raises. Therefore, the most important job of the presenter is to generate a list of questions that can be used to guide the discussion.

A second example may be found in the Shakespeare S/DG that has been offered twice a year for the last several years. In this S/DG, members read the plays aloud in class, but this S/DG is far from an acting class. Each play has a small “Board of Directors” which is not only responsible for administrative functions such as assigning roles to members for reading but also is required to prepare a plot summary, distribute discussion questions about the play, and do a mini-presentation about the play, the plot sources Shakespeare used, key themes, and motifs and symbols employed in the play, the play’s relationship to other plays or to the times or the culture or other movements, commentaries, etc.

Recently, in one of my current S/DGs, one of the class members gave a presentation on the Ten Commandments and how they are interpreted. She structured her presentation as a conversation between Moses and a modern woman, each espousing a different point of view.

Finally, I want to talk briefly about the role of the common reading. Of course, in some S/DGs, there is no common reading at all. In others, the common reading is a supplementary resource to the overall topic and the presentations are independent of the book. In still others, such as literature classes, the common reading is the focus of the class. In the latter case, the nature of the book may dictate differing styles of appropriate presentations; flexibility allows each S/DG to best achieve its goals. Again, these factors, as well as the number of people in the S/DG, will determine how much time is devoted to the book discussion.

My belief is that every S/DG takes on its own identity, in part because of the subject matter, but also because of the composition of the class. (I also

found this to be true when I taught college students. Even when the subject matter was the same, the dynamics of each individual class were different.) I think this is a good thing. In the almost five years that I have been in Omnilore, I’ve probably heard a couple of hundred presentations. Of course, some were better than others, but not because of the method of presentation. In almost every instance, I learned something I didn’t know before and I appreciated the effort that the presenter expended in preparing for it. I am not one who subscribes to the belief that some of the S/DGs that we offer are insufficiently rigorous to be worthy of Omnilore. Rather, I believe that any S/DG can be judged a success if every member does some type of outside research/investigation/study on the S/DG topic and, based on that, brings added value to the in-class proceedings. This is especially true if each presentation, in whatever form, informs classmates or addresses issues in ways that lead to stimulating discussion.

For those of you who would like more help in preparing a presentation, we now offer a “Presentations 101” workshop in the first month of every trimester. These workshops are open to all Omniloreans, new and old. The next one is scheduled on Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. More details are available elsewhere in this newsletter. Meanwhile, the PowerPoint presentation used in the workshop can be found on the Omnilore website at <http://www.omnilore.org/members/Forms2.htm#Presentation>. Additionally, a number of our members have volunteered to give one-on-one help in presentation preparation. A list of these members is also available on the website at <http://www.omnilore.org/members/Forms2.htm#PMentors>.



**The Next INTRODUCING OMNIOLORE MEETINGS: Tues. Feb 23rd - Room 7**  
**Help Spread the Word! Tues. Mar 23rd - Room 7**



**OMNIOLORE PROFILE – BILL GARGARO**

*by Norman Lobsenz*

As a physicist, Bill Gargaro knows how fast protons can flow through a particle accelerator. In a sense, Bill himself has spent his life (even after retirement) in almost constant motion. And while the protons travel in a circle, Bill has always moved full speed ahead.

Of Italian heritage – his grandfather came to America from a village near Naples – Bill grew up in Vicksburg, Mississippi. He developed an interest in science during his years in an all-boys Catholic school, and earned his B.S. in physics at Mississippi State University. Interestingly, the name Gargaro comes from the Greek word stem “gargar,” which denotes a “babbling stream of water.” So it is perhaps no accident that Bill’s first job after college was with the U.S. Corps of Engineers, working to control the often turbulent “babbling” flow of the Mississippi River.

But better offers beckoned from Southern California, and in 1960 Bill began his career in the aerospace industry, working first for North American Aviation and then Northrop, building computers for the Minuteman rocket. “It was a great life,” he recalls. “I lived in the beach cities and drove a red sports car, but it was 1963, and President Kennedy had inspired us with the idea of public service. I was 25 years old and wanted some adventure.”

Bill joined the Peace Corps and taught physics at the University of Sucre, in Bolivia, for two years. (“I could speak Spanish pretty well back then,” he says.) But when he won a five-year NASA Fellowship, he returned to Ohio University, where he received his doctorate in physics. Still on the move, Bill spent the next three years in Orlando, working at Martin Marietta, before returning for good to Redondo Beach. There he joined TRW’s Nuclear Hardness Laboratory, assessing the effects of electromagnetic radiation from nuclear explosions on both military and civilian areas. Until retiring in 1997, he spent the rest of his professional career on a variety of systems-engineering projects.

For Bill, however, retirement merely meant moving on to other responsibilities. “When I lived in Vicksburg,” he says, “a tornado destroyed our house and the Red Cross helped us to rebuild.” So, in a form of repayment, he and his wife, Andrea, a registered nurse, have for more than a dozen years

volunteered in the local Red Cross Disaster Relief program. In emergencies, Bill serves as a shelter manager, relocating families made temporarily homeless by fires or quakes, and Andrea tends to the injured. Bill also volunteers at Harbor View House, in San Pedro, a facility that cares for the mentally ill with the goal of reintegrating patients into society. As a member of its Board of Directors, Bill oversees the administration of various mental health therapy programs. And, oh yes, he also finds time to be on the Board of the South Bay Community Concerts.

World travel has also been a large part of Bill’s on-the-move life. During his time in Bolivia, the Peace Corps was forced to shut down its programs in Sucre three times during nationwide uprisings, and Bill took advantage to travel widely in South America. (“Best trip there,” he says, “was seeing Carnival in Rio.”) While working for TRW he for a time headed its office in Heidelberg, and saw quite a bit of Germany.

A list of other trips, most of them with his wife, Andrea – they’ve been married for 28 years – read like a travel agency’s brochure. For instance, they include: Nepal, trekking in the Himalayas with a side trip to Tibet; seeing the Pyramids in Egypt; going on safari in Kenya and Tanzania; sailing down the Yangtze while touring China; cruising the Amazon; snorkeling in the Galapagos and the Great Barrier Reef. Best of all, Bill says, was spending six weeks in Italy, from Naples to the Lake District, getting acquainted with his family roots. Bill and Andrea also enjoy RV-ing in California, to the wine country and Lake Tahoe. Next destination? “Viet Nam in 2010,” Bill says. “I’m suggesting an S/DG on that country to the Curriculum Committee .”

And lest we forget, Bill has been equally active in Omnilore, which he joined four years ago on the advice of friends and former work colleagues. In that time he has served on the Membership Committee, been a Member-at-Large on the Board of Directors, and is now V.P. for Administration. “My wife is the Supplies Manager,” Bill notes, “so I guess technically that means she works for me....but don’t tell her I said so.”

Final thought this Superbowl season: If Bill Gargaro had played football, he would always have been the man-in-motion.

**Lynn Schubert** **Dale Korman**  
**Dave Knauer** **Nancy Leonard**  
**Barbara Case** **Laura Guneau**  
**Myron Pullen** **Dan Stern**  
**Al Peschel** **Lori Geittmann**  
**Muriel Blatt** **Hal Hart**  
**Rich Mansfield** **Larry Brown**  
**Bob Grove** **Jean de Angelis**  
**Steve Miller** **Jade Neely**  
**Anne Faass** **Ralph Brown**  
**Maria Ruiz** **Sally Downie**  
**Tom Vincent** **Stu Watson**

**THANKS!**

*by Dick Johnson*

I would like to thank the fifty coordinators and co-coordinators who agreed to help run our classes for the Spring Trimester. Your cooperation has made my job not only possible but almost enjoyable. For those of you yet to be called for future trimesters, please know that it is an honor as well as a duty to be thought of by your peers as fully capable of leading successful classes. For those that I call on again and again, please know that I do my best to relieve your burden. I am looking forward to 25 excellent classes this Spring and I have every expectation that this will continue over the summer.

**Margaret Thelan** **Fred Virrazzi**  
**Jim Halloran** **chuck Gray**  
**Frances Roberts** **John Stevens**  
**Kathleen Fitzgerald** **Kit Bell**  
**Janet Brown** **Laurel Spillane**  
**Merle Culbert** **H.E. Kamiya**  
**Ralph Singer** **MaryJo Little**  
**Judith Bayer** **RosaLee Saikley**  
**KC Johnson** **Harriet Allyn**  
**Dick Croft** **Jim Slattery**  
**David Miller** **Rick Spillane**  
**Rich Wallace** **George Clark**  
**John Smith**

## AN OMNIOLOREAN'S NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

I WILL BE A MORE THOUGHTFUL, MORE CONSIDERATE S/DG MEMBER.

What does that mean to me?

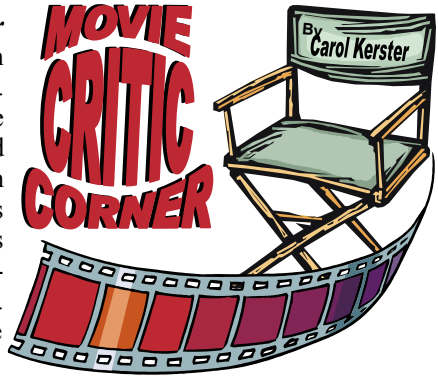
- ▶ I can assist with set-up and clean-up before and after class. By helping out, I'll probably get to know members of the group better.
- ▶ I can do the same for equipment set-up, and if I want to use the equipment for my presentation, I will remember to let the coordinator know in advance and arrive fifteen minutes early to set up. Bonus – I will become more knowledgeable about the equipment.
- ▶ If the coordinator or class member sends an e-mail, I will acknowledge that I have received it. I can just hit the "Reply" button and say "Thanks" or "Message received." That way the sender won't have to worry if everyone got what was sent, or if the message is floating in some black cloud, never to reach its destination.
- ▶ I will volunteer to put the furniture back where it belongs, especially in Room 8 so that the CSUDH professor who rushes into the room in the evening at the last minute won't have to waste valuable class time re-setting the furniture.
- ▶ If I have to be absent from class, I will notify the coordinator in advance.
- ▶ Likewise, I will notify the coordinator if I am on the class roster and decide to drop the class at any time. That way the coordinator can take me off the class list and perhaps allow another member on the waiting list to take my place.
- ▶ After class, if some of us want to continue the discussion I will check with the coordinator to see if this is convenient. If not, we can continue outside and let the coordinator go home.
- ▶ Lastly, and most importantly, I will come to class prepared to participate intelligently, having read assignments and given them thought.

IF I MANAGE TO KEEP THIS RESOLUTION, I WILL HAVE A MORE REWARDING NEW YEAR IN OMNIOLORE AND SO WILL EVERYONE AROUND ME.

Here's to a mentally stimulating 2010!

### *Seducing Doctor*

*Lewis* is mostly in French and subtitles. The setting is a little town on an island off the Canadian coast. The town's fishing industry has collapsed and everyone is on welfare. They have a chance to get a factory in



town, but the owner won't come unless they have a doctor. What ensues is the "seducing" of a doctor who has been assigned to the island for one month. Even though the ending is predictable, the events leading up to it are not, and the movie is pure enjoyment. You might need to get it on Netflix. (Submitted by **Mary Oran**)

While the next films are in theaters at this writing, you may need to resort to Netflix for them, as well. *Coco Before Chanel*, *An Education*, and *The Maid*, seem to have nothing in common but wondrous, breathtaking performances by three stunning actors: Audrey Tatou, Carey Mulligan, and Catalina Saavedra. The stories of these women are as different as the countries in which they are set. The *Before* . . . of Gabrielle Chanel, played by Tatou, refers to the life she lived as she struggled, with steely determination and confidence, against the rigid mores and styles of mid-20<sup>th</sup> century France, to become an icon of fashion. Mulligan, a clear-eyed English school girl gains her education despite considerable parental and other more passionate pressures. And the Chilean, Saavedra, manages to convey, with few words, but with a face almost magically reflective, the inner conflicts of a woman who has worked for a wealthy family for over 20 years. Each of these women achieves a kind of liberation and freedom...power, if you will. That is the connection between them, and that is what, with their incredible performances, makes terrific movie watching! (Submitted by **Carol Kerster**)

Herewith our first Movie Critics Corner. Please send your recommendations of recent, or not so recent, movies you have seen and think would be liked by Omniloreans. A few words about the content, the actors, special effects, direction, etc. would be useful. Send your critique to [ckerster@aol.com](mailto:ckerster@aol.com), and look for it in the next issue of Omnilore News.



### Notice!

Afternoon classes are asked to deposit their food refuse in the can outside the room, rather than the wastebasket under the sink. As the rooms are cleaned in the late mornings, refuse left in the afternoons start to noticeably spoil, distracting evening classes conducted by the college.



## Computer Talks

**January 28th - Noon to 1:15 - Room 7**

### Free, Simple, High-Level Webpage Creation – Easy as Word

*by Hal Hart*

Are you comfortable with Word or PowerPoint basics but feel authoring webpages is beyond your ability? THINK AGAIN! This presentation will demonstrate really simple webpage development adequate for personal and class webpages, with the following advantages:



- ▶ No software to buy – just use the all-in-one internet application suite SeaMonkey (freely downloadable for any platform from <http://seamonkey-project.org/>)
- ▶ Trivial capture of existing webpages whose layout you like and modification of them to become yours. (Word & OpenOffice's Writer can't do this, but they do allow creation of a webpage looking like your text document, and that's fine for many purposes.)
- ▶ What-You-See-Is-What-You-Get (WYSIWYG) – like Word, what you see on your monitor (page layout, fonts, colors, sizes...) while authoring the webpage is what the webpage will look like in a browser. No cryptic underlying HTML or other under-the-hood technology to learn and deal with – SeaMonkey automatically, invisibly generates that stuff from what you see as you create webpages.
- ▶ Familiar menus and drop-downs to control style aspects such as fonts, size, bullets and numbered lists, alignment, background colors, page titles, etc. Easy to format page style into columns, sections, etc. – using Tables just like Word. Easy to insert and adjust graphics.
- ▶ Simple creation of clickable inks (aka hyperlinks) to other existing webpages.

The presentation will also demonstrate common practices to complete your ability to create user-friendly webpages and upload them to an internet server for everyone to see:

1. Style guidelines to increase the readability of your webpage.
2. How to be sure your webpages look and work the same regardless of what computer and browser your visitors use.
3. Some of the many ways to obtain internet web server space to host your webpages. (You probably can get some for free from your internet provider.)
4. The free FileZilla file-transfer client for uploading your webpages to your internet server (freely download for any platform from <http://filezilla-project.org/>)

Pointers to useful guidelines, website-hosting services, and related resources on the web will be provided for those who want to learn more about creating and uploading their own webpages.

**WARNING:** This free-and-easy-to-use technology is not sufficient for professional web design. You won't be able to do mouse-overs, marquees, Java scripts, shopping carts, form-fill-submission, animations (well, Barbara did put me onto GIFfun which is high-level and easy to use – see cycle of Omnilore people at [Omnilore.org](http://Omnilore.org)), etc., without getting downer and dirtier.

For more information about this Computer Talk, contact [Hal.Hart@ACM.ORG](mailto:Hal.Hart@ACM.ORG).



**February 25th  
Noon to 1:00 - Room 7**

### Searching Government Websites

*by Jay Edie*

The USA Government (USG) is a large, complex institution with many branches that have overlapping functions. Not only do we need to keep track of what the USG is doing to us and with our money, but it also holds a wealth of information that we can use in a wide range of ways. The USG has many independent websites and, unfortunately, some of those sites seem inversely non-transparent.

This presentation will explore ways of finding information from USG websites. One may wish to track bills in Congress, ferret out IRS regulations, look for pictures to use in Omnilore presentations, determine the latest changes in Medicare, or any of many other types of information. One way of searching for desired information is to look down each of the organizational “stovepipes” such as the Department of Labor. Another way is to look across organizations if one has knowledge of how overlapping activities are spread among agencies, for example, how efforts to counter climate change are spread between the EPA, Dept. of Energy, etc. A more efficient way of searching is to use the specialized software tools which have been developed expressly for searching USG websites. This presentation will identify a number of such tools that are available and illustrate their use, assuming we have internet connectivity.

If you have USG-specific search questions, you might send them to **Jay Edie** at [j.l.edie@alum.mit.edu](mailto:j.l.edie@alum.mit.edu) and he might be able to address them during the demonstration.

**DEAN'S CORNER**

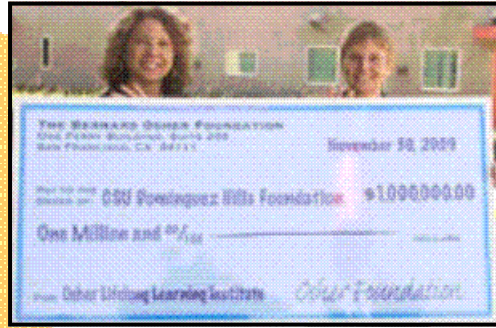
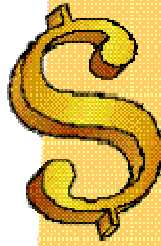


**Notes from CSUDH**

by Margaret Gordon

Dean, Lifelong Learning Institute

College of Extended & International Education



CSUDH President Garcia (left) and Margaret Gordon  
Displaying their \$1M Check

On November 30, 2009, California State University Dominguez Hills celebrated the award of a one million dollar endowment for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. The Bernard Osher Foundation endowment gift was acknowledged at an afternoon reception for OLLI members. The event was attended by 59 OLLI members as well as campus senior administrators including CSUDH President Mildred Garcia, Provost Ronald Vogel, Vice President of Advancement Greg Saks, and Vice President of Administration and Finance, Mary Ann Rodriquez.

Dr. Margaret Gordon, Dean of the College, read a letter from Mary Bitterman, President of the Bernard Osher Foundation. Ms. Bitterman congratulated the program staff and volunteers on “many remarkable achievements particularly in the past eighteen months...building this multifaceted program has truly been a group effort, bringing together the University, local nonprofit and government agencies and dedicated volunteers from the community...we salute your collective accomplishments.”

President Garcia welcomed the audience and remarked on the generosity of Bernard Osher and his Foundation. She highlighted the vision of Bernard Osher who succeeded in establishing a network of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes on college campuses across the nation.

Several campus faculty members who have worked with OLLI stopped by. Among the guests were several past presidents of Omnilore as well as members who have been very active and instrumental in helping OLLI accomplish this award.

City of Carson Mayor Jim Dear and Primitivo Castro, field representative for State Senator Jenny Oropeza, were on hand. Mayor Dear remarked on the value of OLLI for the retirees in Carson. He applauded successful partnerships between the City of Carson and CSUDH.

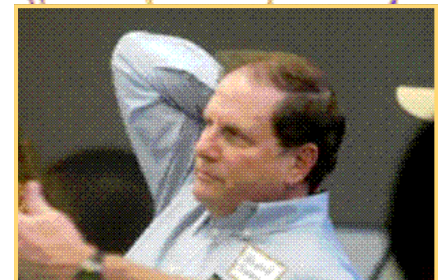
The Osher endowment provides an important source of support for OLLI at CSUDH. Interest from the gift may be used for OLLI programs and activities. In addition to the generous endowment, the Osher Foundation awarded CSUDH a \$50,000 bridge grant to support OLLI for 2009-2010. A separate personal gift of \$25,000 was recently announced from Mr. Osher to each OLLI that his Foundation has endowed. This personal gift is to be used for a one-time enhancement of OLLI programming or activities. The combined total of the gifts, one million seventy-five thousand dollars, is the largest donation CSU Dominguez Hills has received in its fifty-year history.

The College of Extended & International Education is responsible for administering OLLI at CSUDH. This organization currently has 595 members from communities including the South Bay, Carson, Gardena and Compton.

Thank you for your involvement with this growing and dynamic lifelong learning program. We look forward to seeing you on campus this spring.



Margaret Gordon & President Garcia



Howard Korman  
OLLI/Omnilore member



Carson Mayor Jim Dear (center),  
OLLI director Jim Bouchard (left)  
& David Gambo from University  
Advancement



by  
Hal Hart

## THE EQUIPMENT BOX OMNIOLORE EQUIPMENT TRAINING

**WHAT:** A training session on setup, usage, and proper storage of Omnilore's Audio/Visual/computer equipment for all Omnilore members anxious to learn how to use our presentation technology.

**WHEN:** Monday, Jan. 25, 11am – 12:30pm

**WHERE:** Room 7 at the Franklin Center

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND:** Any member not familiar with all the presentation equipment topics below, but willing to learn.

**TOPICS:** Instruction will include hands-on practice setting up and connecting commonly used equipment, topics to include:

1. the Desktop Presenter (for non-computerized hard-copy materials)
2. the projector
3. viewing DVD's (viewed on the large screen via the projector)
4. speakers
5. Omnilore's (or your own) laptop
6. internet access
7. our various hearing-enhancement equipment (so coordinators are able to fulfill the needs of our hearing- or speech-impaired members)
8. correctly storing the equipment (especially the cables) in Equipment Closets
9. As time allows: VCR & CD players, tape recorders, changing batteries, etc.

**HANDOUTS:** Instructional handouts will be given to all attendees. Or, download them at any time from [http://omnilore.org/members/Curriculum/SDGs/99z-WSP\\_Work\\_Space/EQUIPMENT-INFO/EQUIPMENT-TRAINING](http://omnilore.org/members/Curriculum/SDGs/99z-WSP_Work_Space/EQUIPMENT-INFO/EQUIPMENT-TRAINING)

**See you there!**

## Have You Toured the Special 1864 Greek Revival Mansion in Wilmington?

by Laurel Spillane

You say you've never really explored historical Delaware? No need for that cross-country trip. Just do what the Omnilore California History S/DG members did on December 9th – tour the home of General Phineas Banning, the father of the Port of Los Angeles. Our docent tour leader, Leo Moore, a very knowledgeable history buff, did an excellent job of emphasizing Banning's accomplishments and how they contributed to Southern California's growth. We also toured the 23-room home in all its Victorian holiday grandeur, then went down to the water's edge to see where Banning's wharf had been built and to peer at a bit of today's port. Our thanks to classmate **Margaret Ellis** for making the arrangements. We highly recommend that you carve out an afternoon to explore a historical treasure in our own backyard; for details, go to [www.banningmuseum.org](http://www.banningmuseum.org)



Seated, from left: Ionia McDonald, Mimi Lau, Dan LeVantine, Roberta Welch, Jean de Angelis, & Chuck Gray. Standing: Margaret Ellis, Ginny Brown & Dolcent Tour Leader, Leo Moore

## PRESENTATIONS 101: THE WORKSHOP

**Thursday 12 Noon**

**January 21st Room 7**



Are you a new member of Omnilore and a little uncertain about what to do about your first presentation? Perhaps you have been a member of Omnilore for a while and want to polish your presentation skills. In either case, we have some help for you. On **Thursday, January 21, 2010 from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m.**, you are invited to join **Presentations 101: The Workshop**. Need help on selecting a topic? Don't know what audio/visual equipment is available or how to use it? Not sure how to schedule your class presentation? The Workshop will answer these questions and any others you may have relating to one of the most enjoyable elements of the Omnilore experience. It's all about making our presentations better and enjoying livelier discussions. If you can't attend The Workshop and want some help pulling your presentation together check the list of Presentation Mentors on the bulletin boards, phone or e-mail one of the Omnilore members who have volunteered to work with other members on making presentations, and make arrangements for advice and make a new friend.

**Presentations 101: The Workshop - Thursday, January 21st at 12 Noon - Room 7**

**Good News!**

Omnilore's old educational travel program is now being resurrected for all OLLI members. As OLLI's first trip we will be touring Virginia and her neighbors to encounter history, homes and hospitality.

To implement the trip we have engaged a tour company from Virginia that has been very helpful in choosing top attractions at a minimum price. We will be visiting places of importance in Colonial America, the American Revolution, the Civil War and geography such as a boat ride in Hampton Roads, a drive in the Blue Ridge Mountains and exploration of Shenandoah Caverns. We will visit the homes of three of the first four presidents.

**Dates:** Thursday, September 9, to Monday, September 20, 2010

**Price:** \$1906 per person based on double occupancy assuming 25 people go. Add an additional \$656 for single occupancy. This price includes land transportation, lodging, breakfasts, welcome and farewell dinners, four lunches, and admission to attractions. Airfare will be arranged at best rate available or you can make your own arrangements.

**Deposit:** Please make a check for \$250 to **Signa Tours** and mail to John Taber, 37 Harbor Sight Drive, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

**Final payment due:** July 9, 2010

**Request Detailed Itinerary/Questions:**

Email or call **John or Lynn Taber** - ledwards\_92648@yahoo.com or 310-831-4768.

**Additional Information:**

To learn more about this trip, attend one of the following meetings:

- Thursday, January 21, at 3:30 p.m. at CSUDH Extended Education
- Tuesday, February 9, at 10:30 a.m. at the Franklin Center, Room 8

**New Omnilore Logo**



by  
Myron  
Pullen

155 votes were cast at the Omnilore Annual Meeting and Luncheon on October 30th to determine which of the four owl images submitted in the Logo Contest should be decided as the winner. The winning entry, displayed above, was chosen by 41% of the votes cast. This image in this form, or in possibly a modified (resized, colorized, bolder lines, etc.) version, will now become the official Omnilore Logo to be used in future correspondence, art work, and the web site.

Our thanks to **George Clark** for submitting the winning entry.



**Osher Spring 2010 Lecture Series: *Science of Life***

by **Jim Bouchard**

Senior Program Development Specialist  
Coordinator, Lifelong Learning, OLLI AT CSUDH



Dominguez Hills Biology Department faculty present old and new information, as well as ever-changing ideas regarding life and the many influences of life inherent in our planet. Questions to ponder are: How do cells get things done, Do cells talk to each other, What is the power that generates life and keeps it going, and Why do biodiversity and ecological communities exist.

Join us to hear about current research and engage in discussion with dynamic lecturers who profess that the Science of Life is interesting and exciting. We anticipate that you will gain an appreciation for understanding life's processes as you move through the following topics:

**What Is Life and How Did It Get Started**

Cathy Jacobs, Ph.D., Lecturer  
Wednesday, January 20th - 10 a.m. to 12 Noon

**Cells—The Building Blocks of Life**

John Carvalho, Ph.D., Assistant Professor  
Wednesday, February 3rd - 10 a.m. to 12 Noon

**Internal Communication**

Cathy Jacobs, Ph.D., Lecturer  
Wednesday, February 17th - 10 a.m. to 12 Noon

**The Genetic Code**

Katherine Bates, Ph.D., Assistant Professor  
Wednesday, March 3rd - 10 a.m. to 12 Noon



**Evolution—Creating Variety**

John Thomlinson, Ph.D., Chairperson  
Wednesday, March 17th - 10 a.m. to 12 Noon

**Biodiversity and Ecological Communities**

John Thomlinson, Ph.D., Chairperson  
Wednesday, April 7th - 10 a.m. to 12 Noon

**Powering Life—The Flow of Biological Energy**

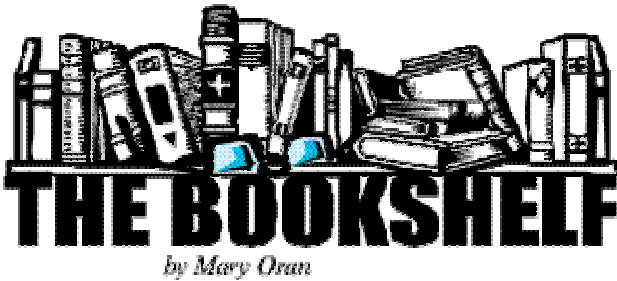
Terrence McGlynn, PhD., Assistant Professor  
Wednesday, April 21st - 10 a.m. to 12 Noon

**Societies—Individuals Working Together**

Terrence McGlynn, PhD., Assistant Professor  
Wednesday, May 5th - 10 a.m. to 12 Noon

There is no cost for Omniloreans or other OLLI members to attend this series. All lectures will be held in the Extended Education Auditorium, EE-1213. If you are interested in this series **and have not already told us**, please let Johan know: 310 215-1848, or johansmith@ca.rr.com





In the previous newsletter I requested suggestions for good biographies. The response was underwhelming, so the suggestions won't be as comprehensive as I had hoped, but the suggestions we have are great ones! Consider the lives below worth reading.

Author **A'Lelia Bundles** is the great-great-granddaughter of the remarkable **Madam Walker**. C.J. Walker, a freed slave, became the nation's first black female millionaire through her successful marketing techniques of hair-care products for black women. In addition to effective business strategies, the narrative sheds light on race relations and social norms of the early 20th century. The inspiring Madam Walker is unforgettable.

A book that traces the life of an amazing woman and presents an overview of Iranian history, **Daughter of Persia: A Woman's Journey From Her Father's Harem Through the Islamic Revolution** has a fascinating storyline. Written by **Sattareh Farman Farmaian** with **Dona Munker**, the book opens with Sattareh's

story of growing up in a compound as the daughter of one of the eight wives of a prince. Her father was progressive enough to have his daughters educated at a Protestant school in Tehran. During WWII, she came to the U.S. to study and earned a graduate degree from USC. She returned to Iran, ended up in prison, escaped from it after the Iranian revolution, and returned to Los Angeles.

How's that for an incredible journey?

For a change of pace, consider **In the Studio** by **Tony Bennett, Mitch Albom** and **Mario Cuomo** (what a great combo!) Focusing on Tony Bennett and his art, Albom and Cuomo add wonderful anecdotes about Bennett and their friendship with him. It is filled with Bennett's beautiful watercolors, and it includes a CD with some of his favorite songs from the 60s. A real treasure!

Tony Bennett is an American legend, and so is Satchel Paige. **Satchel: The Life and Times of an American Legend** by **Larry Tye** has just been published. Paige was both a gifted baseball pitcher and "consummate entertainer." He was the second African American to breach baseball's color barrier in the major leagues. In spite of a childhood of poverty and five years in juvenile detention,

he rose to the top and was a real favorite of fans. This biography should entertain you from beginning to end.

More than one person has mentioned **On Gold Mountain (A One Hundred Year Odyssey of My Chinese American Family)**. **Lisa See** tells the story of her great-great-great-grandfather, Fong See, who comes to the U.S. in 1867. He manages to build a mercantile empire and live to be about 100. He moves to Los Angeles at the beginning of the 20th century; consequently, the book not only traces the offspring of the four wives, but also shows the development of Los Angeles and the changing immigration laws.

Finally, what would a list of good biographies be without at least one presidential one? **David McCullough's John Adams** is a well-told narrative featuring many early patriots. One learns so much about history in this special book, and the personalities of many figures come alive. As the contributor said, it "makes our present government and politicians seem bland and ineffectual."

Remember- we welcome your recommendations.

(Our thanks to Joyce Barham and Helen Leven for contributing to our list. Please send recommendations to [msoran@sbcglobal.net](mailto:msoran@sbcglobal.net). Include title, author and a very brief description of the content. Please put "Omniole Books" as the subject of the email. We look forward to hearing from you.)

**OMNIOLORE Winter Forum Luncheon Reservation Form**

WHEN: **Friday, January 29th, 2010 – 11:30 a.m.**

WHERE: **Los Verdes Country Club**  
7000 W. Los Verdes Drive  
Rancho Palos Verdes

Reservations are required by January 22nd

Please make \_\_\_\_\_ reservations for the **Omniole Annual Luncheon** at **\$18.00** each:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

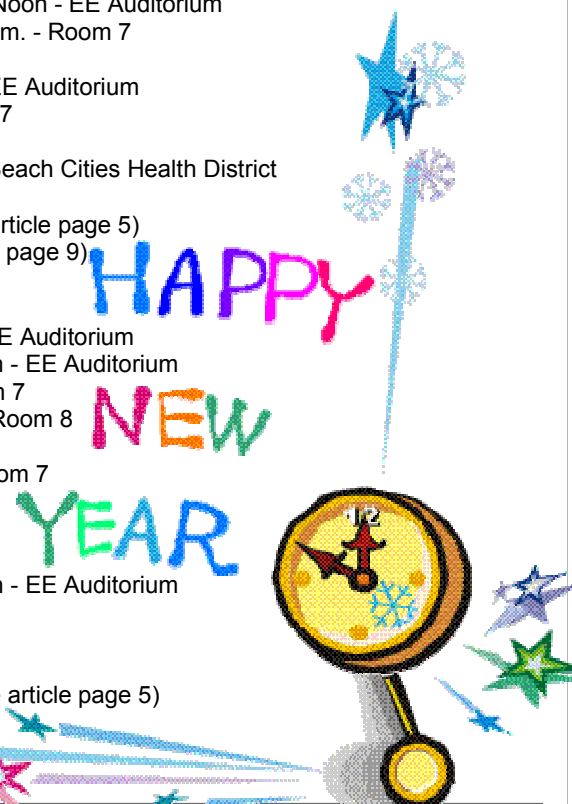
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Enclosed is a check for:  **\$18.00**  Other

Please make checks out to **CSUDH**, and put in the Forum Committee's box or send to:

Forum Committee, c/o Diana Cutler  
10 Middleridge Lane S.  
Rolling Hills, CA 90274

OMNIOLORE  
CALENDAR  
2010



<b>January</b>	<p><b>1</b> <b>4</b> <b>12</b> <b>14</b> <b>15</b> <b>18</b> <b>20</b> <b>21</b>  <b>21</b> <b>25</b>  <b>27</b> <b>28</b>  <b>29</b></p>	<p><b>New Year's Day</b> Spring Trimester Begins Membership Committee - 12 Noon - 1 p.m. - Room 7 Board of Directors Meeting - Cancelled for January Hiking Group - 10 a.m. - 12 Noon <b>Martin Luther King Day</b> 1st OLLI at CSUDH Lecture Series - 10 a.m. - 12 Noon - EE Auditorium Presentations 101: The Workshop - Noon - 1:30 p.m. - Room 7 (see article page 7) OLLI at CSUDH Open House - 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. - EE Auditorium Equipment Training - 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Room 7 Hal Hart (see article page 7) OLLI at CSUDH Open House - 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. - Beach Cities Health District Computer Talk - 12 Noon - 1:15 p.m. - Room 7 <i>Simple Webpage Development</i> - Hal Hart (see article page 5) Winter Forum (see article page 1, reservation form page 9)</p>
<b>February</b>	<p><b>2</b> <b>3</b> <b>9</b> <b>9</b>  <b>11</b> <b>14</b> <b>15</b> <b>15</b> <b>17</b> <b>19</b> <b>23</b> <b>25</b></p>	<p>OLLI at CSUDH Open House - 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. - EE Auditorium OLLI at CSUDH Lecture Series - 10 a.m. - 12 Noon - EE Auditorium Membership Committee - 12 Noon - 1 p.m. - Room 7 Trip to Virginia Info Meeting - 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. - Room 8 (see article page 8) Board of Directors Meeting - 12 Noon - 2 p.m. - Room 7 <b>Valentine's Day</b> Input Deadline for Mar.-Apr. 2010 Newsletter <b>Presidents' Day</b> OLLI at CSUDH Lecture Series - 10 a.m. - 12 Noon - EE Auditorium Hiking Group - 10 a.m. - 12 Noon Introducing Omnimore - 10 a.m. - Noon - Room 7 Computer Talk - 12 Noon - 1 p.m. - Room 7 <i>Searching Government Websites</i> - Jay Edie (see article page 5)</p>

**2010 Forums**  
 Winter - January 29th  
 Spring - April 29th  
 Summer - July 29th  
 Annual Mtg. - October 29th

**IMPORTANT:**  
 Calendar changes and additions are scheduled with Lynn Taber  
 (310) 831-4768 - ledwards\_92648@yahoo.com

## Omnimore Welcomes New Members

*by Howard Korman*

Looking forward to the spring trimester, the Membership Committee held three "Introducing Omnimore" meetings this December. Twenty-three people attended; of those, 12 have enrolled so far.

Many **Omnimore** members helped by encouraging friends to get involved in **Omnimore**, and their assistance is much appreciated. The Membership Committee would also like to thank the Daily Breeze, the Easy Reader, and the Beach Reporter for their publicity that motivated several people to attend. We post flyers in libraries for these meetings, and if anyone has any further suggestions for publicizing future meetings, feel free to contact me.

Let's welcome all our new members to the classes they have enthusiastically selected.

*{The following is a list of new Omnimore members who have joined in December and do not appear on the 10/31/09 roster distributed at the annual meeting.}*



WELCOME!

<p><b>Nancy Dale</b> Rolling Hills Estates</p> <p><b>Kathleen Davis</b> Torrance</p> <p><b>Richard Ellis</b> San Pedro</p> <p><b>Joyce Francisco</b> Torrance</p>	<p><b>Catherine Gallepeau</b> Redondo Beach</p> <p><b>Beverly Hill</b> Redondo Beach</p> <p><b>Allan Johnson</b> Palos Verdes Estates</p> <p><b>Sandra Kreiswirth</b> Hermosa Beach</p>	<p><b>Sunny Moss</b> Torrance</p> <p><b>Florence Murphy</b> San Pedro</p> <p><b>Roger Peterson</b> Torrance</p> <p><b>Theodora Sonnichsen</b> San Pedro</p>
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