



# OMNIOLORE NEWS



Volume 26 Issue 3

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May 2017

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS Elected Officers

President	Frank Pohlner
VP - Academics	Judy Bayer
VP - Administration	Gloria Martin
Treasurer	Kent McDonald
Recording Secretary	Judy North
Past President	Art Irizarry
Member-at-Large	Claire Damecour
Member-at-Large	Joy Jurena
Member-at-Large	Carol Wingate

### Standing Committee Chairs

Membership	Florence Murphy
Forum	Robert Mallano
Communications	Marion Smith
Curriculum	Rick Spillane
Technology	Bill Gargaro
Finance	Kent McDonald
Head Coordinator	Gloria Dumais

### Appointees

Registrar	Carolyn Pohlner
SDG Scheduling	Ruth & Hal Hart
Room Scheduling	Lynn Taber
Laptop Administrator	Rick Spillane
Equipment	Hal Hart
	Jim Slattery
Supplies	Carolyn Pohlner
	Jill McKenzie
Office Manager	Lynn Anderson
Member Advocate	Frank Reiner
Webmaster	Hal Hart

### A Report on the April Forum:

## State Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi Addresses Omnilore's Spring Forum

by *Teddie Milner*

The Omnilore Spring Forum, held on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Los Verdes Country Club, was honored to have California State Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi as the guest speaker. He represents the 66<sup>th</sup> district, which includes Manhattan, Hermosa and Redondo Beaches, Torrance, the Palos Verdes Peninsula, West Carson, Harbor City and the southern part of Gardena. He addressed our group on the topics of California's economic health and what's coming up in the next legislative session, and then took questions from the audience.

As you may remember from the Forum flyer, the assemblyman was born and grew up in Okinawa. His father worked as a civilian for the U.S. Army. Al was an exemplary student who gained admission to Berkeley as an undergraduate. With a BA and many strong letters of recommendation, he earned acceptance to the UCLA School of Law. For a brief period after graduation, he became a prosecutor at the LA County District Attorney's Office, a trustee for the Torrance Unified School District and a trustee for the Southern California Regional Occupational Center [SoCal ROC]. In 2012 he was elected to the California State Assembly, where he is serving a second term. The focus of his public service has been on the local economy, the aerospace industry and education.

To that end, he has chaired the Select Committee on Aerospace with a goal of revitalizing the aerospace industry in the South Bay. Assemblyman Muratsuchi spoke enthusiastically about the exciting developments with SpaceX. Since 2006, SpaceX has rented buildings left empty by shrinking industries and has added an additional 4,000 jobs in Hawthorne. SpaceX is currently building rocket ships to deliver supplies to the space station, launching satellites and developing reusable rockets. Virgin Galactic is working on commercial space travel, just opening "Virgin Orbit" in March 2017. With the federal government increasing its spending in the defense industry, there may be more jobs, e.g., the B21 Raider, which could bring an additional 5,000 jobs to California. It was asked why these jobs would come to California.



*Al Muratsuchi & Lori Geittmann*

*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.

Editor	Marion Smith
Staff Member	Open

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

*Frank Pohlner*

Well, I have good news and I have bad news. First the bad news. Our treasurer, the newly formed finance committee and I concur that we need to increase our membership fees by \$30.00 per year starting next fiscal year. The Omnimore Board of Directors voted to accept the increased fee structure shown below. This is the first Omnimore fee increase in over ten years. The increase is needed largely to cover the incremental rent increase for which we are responsible as part of our agreement with the university and the increased cost of administrative support. You will start seeing the new fees listed in materials distributed in June.

The new registration fee structure including the OLLI fee for 2017-2018 will be:

- Full Year—U.S. Mail    \$150**
- Full Year—E-mail        \$130**

We will continue our practice of prorating the first year membership for those that join during the year:

- Spring & Sum    U.S. Mail    \$110**
- Spring & Sum    E-mail        \$100**
- Summer            U.S. Mail    \$70**
- Summer            E-mail        \$65**

For those that wish to remain on Omnimore’s mailing list only with no membership privileges the fee will be:

- Mailing List Only U.S. Mail    \$20**

So what is the good news you may ask? The good news is that Omnimore is still an incredible value in adult education. A similar peer-led education group here in Los Angeles charges \$485 per year according to their website. Over three times as much! And they do not have the benefits of the OLLI courses, lectures and trips through the university.

**New CSUDH Classes**

CSUDH is adding additional classes at our Beach Cities Health Center (BCHC) location. There will be classes held Wednesday and Thursday evenings in both L8 and L9 in addition to an all-day class on Saturdays in L8. The university is adding thousands of students and is looking to maximize usage of all classroom space. I extend a big thank-you to all the Omnimoreans who have pitched in to help keep the classrooms neat and clean as we share this space. This is one way we keep our fees so reasonable.

A question that I am frequently asked is about the chair and table arrangements. The agreement that we have with the CSUDH facilities manager is that CSUDH classes are allowed to rearrange the furniture to suit their instructional needs with no obligation to return the classroom to our configuration. Likewise, we may arrange the furniture in any configuration that we wish with no obligation to rearrange it.

**New Board Members**

The Omnimore Board approved my appointment of **Carol Wingate** as the new Member-At-Large to replace **Bob Mallano**. Carol is a very active Omni-

morean and was nominated by multiple board members. So if you see Carol please congratulate her for taking on this volunteer commitment to our education.

You may know that **Bob Mallano** has



stepped up to replace **Lori Geitmann** as chairperson of the Forum Committee. Lori is stepping down after many years as Forum chairperson for health reasons but promises us that she will remain as active as possible as a committee member. The board gave Lori a round of applause as we thanked her for her service in obtaining high quality, entertaining, thought-provoking speakers for us with wonderful luncheons at a beautiful venue.

Bob is a retired judge and we are confident that his contacts in the community will continue to provide us with stimulating speakers. **Linda Jensen**, our former vice president for administration, has agreed to assist Bob in coordinating the forums. We look forward to our future forum luncheons.

**Fall Curriculum**

Participating in the Curriculum Committee gave me an advance look at the upcoming Fall trimester course offerings. I think there are 23 great options coming at you.



<p>Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young. <i>Henry Ford</i></p>	<p>Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man. <i>Francis Bacon</i></p> <p>Education is the best provision for old age. <i>Aristotle</i></p>	<p>The ideal condition would be, I admit, that men should be right by instinct; but since we are all likely to go astray, the reasonable thing is to learn from those who can teach. <i>Sophocles</i></p>
<p>Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body. <i>Joseph Addison</i></p>	<p>Learning without thought is labor lost; thought without learning is perilous. <i>Confucius</i></p>	<p>Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought with ardor and attended to with diligence. <i>Abigail Adams</i></p>

## Omnilore Profile

### Meet Judy Bayer—Vice President of Academics

by Marion Smith

How are we Omniloreans so blessed to have the wide variety of study/discussion groups (S/DGs) and lectures offered to us each trimester? Start by looking at Omnilore’s Vice President of Academics, the position now held by Judy Bayer. Judy oversees the Curriculum Committee, the Coordinator Committee, and the Forum Committee. And as one of three members of the Executive Committee (the others being Frank Pohlner and Gloria Martin), Judy participates on the Evaluation Committee. Whew.

Judy comes to this commitment with credible experience reviewing a disparate array of choices. In 2008, she retired as an attorney with the Los Angeles County Council Dependency Division—the division that litigates cases of suspected child abuse and neglect. Parental rights have to be considered, of course, but a child’s safety is a primary consideration at Dependency Court. She served on ICAN (Interagency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect) as a representative from the County Council’s office. ICAN met at the Coroner’s Office where they considered causes of child death and what could have been done to prevent a death.

Judy grew up in Newton, Massachusetts, but left that state in order to attend Cedar Crest College in Allentown, Pennsylvania. She and her husband Fred moved to the Peninsula in 1965, and after that, Judy earned a master’s degree in education from CSU Dominguez Hills and a law degree from Southwestern Law School. By then Judy and Fred had three daughters, and Judy talks about the added pressure of being a student role model for one’s own children. She says, “Your kids are watching to see how you perform.” Their youngest daughter was 10 when Judy was in law school.

Two of the Bayer daughters live in San Francisco and the third one lives in Palo Alto. One set of 17-year-old twin girls in Palo Alto and one set of 6-year-old twin boys in San Francisco



comprise the list of Bayer grandchildren. Fred continues to work as a chemical engineer at his own firm.

Judy joined Omnilore in about 2010 and has served as course coordinator many times as well as a member of the Coordinator Committee and Member-at-Large on the Omnilore Board since then.

Active participation is nothing new to Judy. While her girls were young she was active in the Palos Verdes Cooperative Nursery School, and now she serves as chair of her homeowners’ association (HOA) while producing the HOA newsletter. She also produces the newsletter for the Palos Verdes Peninsula Village. Ok. That’s all work she does while sitting at a desk.

What about when she’s not sitting at a desk? She plays tennis five times a week and walks her dog Riley twice a day. She and Fred are active bicyclists, traveling around the world with Vermont Bicycle Tours and other organizations. Their group of 8 or 10 friends will bicycle in the Florida Keys in January. About such trips, Judy says, “You get to smell the roses.”

Judy takes one class per term at Omnilore. She picks political science and history classes. Her favorite class so far was the Hamilton S/DG. She points out something pretty amazing about an Omnilore curriculum: Instead of being offered courses which meet at certain days and times, as college courses would be offered, Omnilore registrants provide their day and time *unavailability* with their selected courses, and our S/DG schedulers (the irreplaceable Ruth and Hal Hart) go from there to create the final Omnilore schedule. [Actually, Ruth gives credit to John Taber for creating the scheduling software that provides such amazing results.]

Judy makes these comments about Omnilore: “It’s a great opportunity. But everyone has to do his/her share to make it work.” Are you ready? Judy is sure to help you get involved.

## A BIG THANK YOU



To Gloria Dumais, Head Coordinator, her team, and to all coordinators and co-coordinators who are working so hard to make the Omnilore classes run smoothly and efficiently!

Did you know that your coordinators are responsible for calendaring all of the presentations and discussions, maintaining standards for the smooth running of their classes, communicating vital information with their classmates, keeping rosters of the class members, just to name a few.

What would we do without them??



Gloria Dumais  
Head Coordinator

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**A Report on the January Forum:** *(Cont'd from Page 1)*

The assemblyman answered, “The best engineers and a ready workforce live here!” The UCs, the Cal-State system and the community colleges are great investments, which are paying off. There are reasons why California receives the highest amount of venture capital and outpaces other areas of the country. Many engineers from the area come from West Torrance. Why? Some of the best public schools are in the South Bay. Al feels protective of the South Bay, as he has two children attending public schools here.

During the question/answer portion, one person asked about the assemblyman’s stance on public versus charter schools. He noted that there is not a single charter school in his district. Charter schools are found in areas where public schools have not been successful. If you can make public schools work, there is seemingly no need for charters. He prefers to support public schools with his energies.

Another question was, “Why are dentists not required to obtain liability insurance like other professionals?” The assemblyman stated that he was not aware of this but would look into it.

Another Omnioleorean asked how to prevent companies like Toyota from moving to Texas or other states offering tax breaks and/or benefits to enhance the bottom line. There is also the problem that an engineer moving to California can’t afford to buy a house. If she/he works in Texas, a large home is easily obtainable. Al told us that he is working with mayors and the Governor to figure out how to make the cost of living more reasonable for professionals to live in the South Bay.

The fate of the bill authorizing “The Mall by the Sea” was a popular issue that the majority of South Bay residents were grateful to see go down to defeat. None denied that the parking lot by the pier at Redondo is in need of repair. The assemblyman asked, “How do we balance the desire for views with the building of the projected large, tall, income-producing mall?”

An update on the Torrance Refinery was requested. The assemblyman has authored five bills to make refineries safer after the 2015 major explosion in Torrance. Bills have been passed to control excessive flaring, to reduce fires and to require the mandatory monitoring of air quality. One bill focuses on reducing/eliminating the toxic hydrochloric acid found around refineries. Hydrochloric acid forms a vapor cloud which drifts for miles and can threaten life up to three miles away. While we want to contain these problems, we have to have good air quality and be careful not to lose 1,000 jobs and the vital income which the refinery brings to our economy. So again, it’s a balancing act.

Coyotes are invading the South Bay. Al agrees, noting that he has seen them in his backyard. When he asked Animal Control for advice, they offered lots of sugges-

tions, one being to put rocks in a can and shake it vigorously in the direction of the coyote. He agrees that we must do what is needed to protect families and pets, but also acknowledges that we are building into their environments. He suggests we follow city rules.

With the gutting of the EPA’s budget and rollback of regulations, one concerned individual asked about the possibility that there could be drilling for oil off the coast of California. Mr. Muratsuchi shot back quickly that he would be all over that!—adding further that California leads the nation in innovation and environmental protection issues. Xavier Becerra, our Attorney General, would fight any plan to drill off the California coast in the courts.

Following up on the last question, it was suggested that when the assemblyman presents new proposals for the environment, it might be helpful to introduce them in terms of “continuing the fight for clean air and water”—not as new regulation (which many oppose). Al shook his head in agreement and promised to do so.

“The single payer health care system” continues to be discussed in Sacramento. A member of Omnioleore wondered what might happen to Kaiser if that plan is approved.

A retired teacher inquired about the new federal stance against sanctuary cities and what it would mean for the educational funding cities receive. Could these funds be cut off? Some attempts have been made to withhold funds from sanctuary cities but these orders were shot down in the Federal District Court, we were told by the speaker.

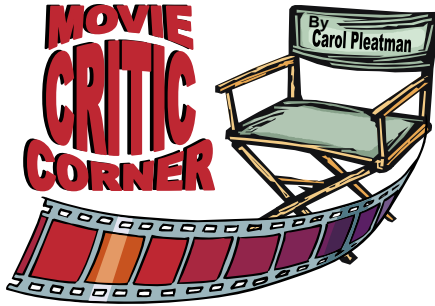
The governor continues to talk about the bullet train and the hyper loop; what’s the latest? We learned that the projects are in the early stages and have not been offered federal matching funds to defray some of the cost. The program is not yet viable.

There was an inquiry about homeless housing. In Los Angeles, public housing for the homeless has recently received voter approval to begin to build housing through the approval of measure “H”. Measure “H” represents a start to finding solutions for this most difficult problem. What about the South Bay? Al repeated, “It all revolves around money!”

Muratsuchi authored a \$20M bill to provide housing for 250 seniors on the Bay Cities Health District (BCHD) properties, which encompass 150 acres. It was difficult to get others to understand how useful it would be to have the housing facilities integrated with healthcare services, offering independence for the senior community. This affordable housing would be available only to those living in beach cities, not the peninsula. We are privileged to have the BCHD in our community.

Concern was expressed about the additional traffic and the need for more parking. Of course, city approval would be required taking those items into account. Redondo Beach would need to review and address traffic patterns around the area and assess the need for an appropriate number of parking spaces. All of these vital issues would need to be established to allow for the Senior Housing Project’s success, he said.

*Continued on Page 6*



The 89<sup>th</sup> Academy Awards are over and I hope all of your favorites won. One movie that I thought was excellent that didn't get the attention it deserved is *Fences*.

If you are an August Wilson fan, this was August Wilson at his best. He was nominated for best adapted screenplay posthumously and completed the screenplay before his death in 2005.

The movie was directed and produced by Denzel Washington who also portrayed Troy Maxson, the main character. His wife is played by Viola Davis who won best supporting actress for her portrayal of his wife, Rose.

This is a story of a family and the patriarch who is very embittered with life. He was a former star player in the Negro League and resents the fact that he couldn't play in the National Leagues because he was black.

He is a sanitation collector who becomes the first black manager. In his youth he survived a life-threatening pneumonia attack and is convinced that he escaped death by winning a fist fight with the devil whom he calls "Grim Reaper." He knows that the Grim Reaper is waiting for a return match.

Troy's brother was left with a head injury from World War II that rendered him mentally impaired. He received \$3,000 from a government pay-out that Troy used to buy a home for his family.

He has two sons from a previous marriage. The oldest son Lyons Maxon (played by Russell Hornsby) only comes around on payday. He wants to be a professional musician and badly wants his father to hear him play, but Troy refuses. The younger son Cory (beautifully played by Jovan Adepo) is being scouted by the NFL. Troy refuses to sign the permission papers. He still believes there is racial discrimination in major leagues, and also is jealous that his son may succeed in sports where he could not.

The film focuses on a man, his family and job. He was abused by his father, angry over the attitudes about race relations and mean to both of his sons. Troy is a very complex and bitter man.

Troy is cheating on Rose with Alberta whom he met at a local Bar. When she becomes pregnant he has to tell his wife about his infidelity. Although they live in the same house, Troy and Rose becomes estranged.

There is so much to this movie, but I don't want to tell you more. As the story unfolds, it should be seen.

**Florence Foster Jenkins:** I usually review very serious and complicated films. So I thought I would include this time a more light-hearted film. *Florence Foster Jenkins* is a biography of a real-life New York socialite, Florence Foster Jenkins played by Meryl Streep.

The movie is directed by the English director, Stephen Fears, whom you might know from *Dangerous Liaisons* and *My Beautiful Launderette*. Meryl Streep won the Critic's Choice Movie award for best actress in a comedy.

Florence is a New York heiress who became an opera singer who just can't sing, but this doesn't stop her. The voice she hears in her head is beautiful, but to

everyone else it is awful. She is not only known for her lack of any singing ability, but also for her flamboyant performance costumes.

The film takes place in 1944 when the U.S. is involved in World War II.

She is married to St. Clair Bayfield (Hugh Grant), an aristocratic English actor and also her manager. Florence has syphilis, which she contacted from her first husband many years ago. She takes mercury and arsenic which was the remedy at that time, and has serious side effects. She and Bayfield have an agreement never to consummate their marriage. They live separately, she in a New York apartment, and he in a house with his secret mistress, Kathleen Weatherly (Rebecca Ferguson).

Florence decides to take up singing lessons again. She is preparing for a public concert at Carnegie Hall. After the concert the critics are very harsh. Her husband is determined to protect his beloved Florence from the critics and the truth, but cannot.

Enough cannot be said of Ms. Streep who portrays her character with grace and dignity amidst the jeers of her audiences and, through it all, evokes a compassion and sympathy to the viewer. "A lesser actor could have made a comedic buffoon of her performance but this is, after all, Meryl Streep, and she strides the delicate balance between a comical and serious performance with the scalpel that only great artists can achieve." Hugh Grant gives probably his best performance.

Two other spectacular movies to see are *Hidden Figures* and *Hell and High Water*.

**You, too, can be a film critic!**  
Send your review to  
[Newsletter@Omniole.org](mailto:Newsletter@Omniole.org)

The Next

**INTRODUCING OMNIOLORE MEETINGS:**

**Thursday, June 29th - 1:30 p.m.**

**L8 Friday, August 4th - 1:30 p.m.**

**Help Spread the Word! RSVP 310-514-1415**



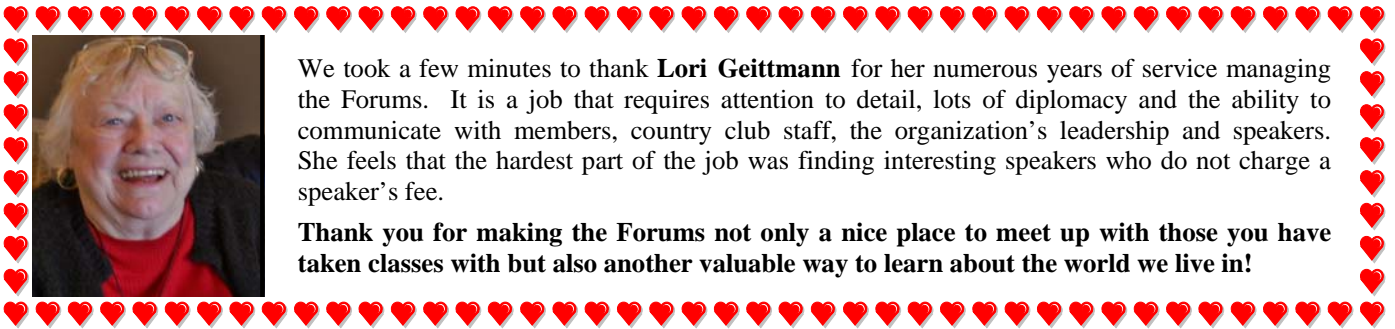
### A Report on the January Forum: (Cont'd from Page 4)

The issue of day care costs for children in California was raised. Costs have become unaffordable. The example of how Iowa sends all of their 4-year-olds to a free pre-school was cited. What about our kids? Assemblyman Muratsuchi said at the national level things are trending in an opposite direction. Sacramento seems interested in offering a tax deduction but that means you'd first have to pay for it. Again, it's all about the money.

An update on the SoCal ROC program was requested. Al considers it the "gem of the South Bay" but struggling. It is a joint program serving six school districts. This program is considered a leader in providing current and relevant technical education to meet today's job demands. He had a conversation with the governor about the merits of the program. The governor became very enthused about it and wanted to see it immediately but unfortunately there were scheduling conflicts so that did not happen. Meanwhile it's scraping by.

A question about keeping drinking water clean finished the question and answer session. There are all types of pollutants (drugs, carpet and tires, etc.) that eventually end up in our drinking water. Yes, this is a problem to be solved. Health and Human Services offers unused drug drop off locations several times a year. They are advertised on TV. There are also toxic waste stations in Torrance and Hermosa Beach that take electronic waste such as computers, paint cans, oil and other toxic chemicals. We need to be diligent in using our resources to keep our water clean.

The meeting ended with a gracious thank you to Assemblyman Muratsuchi for his time and consideration of our issues. Now, we are all more informed on a wide variety of topics. See you at the Summer Forum!



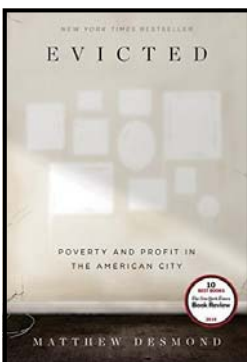
We took a few minutes to thank **Lori Geittmann** for her numerous years of service managing the Forums. It is a job that requires attention to detail, lots of diplomacy and the ability to communicate with members, country club staff, the organization's leadership and speakers. She feels that the hardest part of the job was finding interesting speakers who do not charge a speaker's fee.

**Thank you for making the Forums not only a nice place to meet up with those you have taken classes with but also another valuable way to learn about the world we live in!**

### Mid-Spring Best Sellers SIG Reads

by Patricia Edie & Cindy Eggert

Omnilore's Best Sellers Special Interest Group continues to meet each month, at 12 noon, on the second Monday of the month in L8 of the Beach Cities Health Center to discuss the chosen book for the month. We alternate each month between various works of fiction and non-fiction. The discussion is always lively and interesting! Upcoming dates and book selections are:

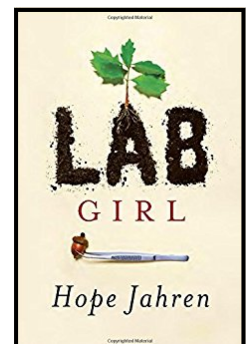


Monday,  
May 8:  
Non-Fiction  
*Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*  
by  
Matthew Desmond



Monday, June 12:  
Fiction  
*The Sun Is Also A Star*  
by Nicola Yoon

Monday,  
July 10:  
Non-Fiction  
*Lab Girl*  
by Hope Jahren



**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.**



## 2017 Osher Institute's National Conference

by Janice Champion

*La Margo Washington, OLLI Director*

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

[www.csudh.edu/olli](http://www.csudh.edu/olli)



From April 3 - 5, our director, La Margo Washington, and I attended the 2017 Osher Institutes National Conference near Dallas, Texas. We, along with representatives from the other 119 OLLIs across the nation, spent those days networking, attending meetings and lectures, and learning about how other OLLIs run their programs.

There were several useful workshops including one that I felt was especially appropriate for us, specifically Hearing Assistance Initiatives.

Did you know that 50% - 80% of us seniors have some type of hearing loss? Many of us are not aware of having one...maybe it just seems like people are talking too softly.

It can be difficult to hear in classrooms because of sounds echoing off hard surfaces, distance from speaker, and background noise. During discussions, people may not speak loudly, clearly, or in your direction. If you are wasting your cognitive energy trying to fill in words you are not hearing, you have less cognitive energy to learn the material.

Hearing problems may be stressful. Many people are embarrassed asking others to repeat words. They may just nod and hope that that was an appropriate response. Alternatively, they will just stop coming to social events. They become isolated which can lead to depression and dementia.

We can improve hearing in our environment in three ways:

- ✓ Institutional changes (in buildings and equipment)
- ✓ Educating talkers
- ✓ Educating listeners

We can install better speakers (and, by the way, Dean McNutt has had an excellent new sound system installed in the Extended Education auditorium, EE-1213) or use portable speaker systems. We can purchase microphones (ones that are handheld, pinned to the collar, hooked over the ear, etc.) However, there is a price tag.

Educating speakers and listeners is free. Some guidelines for speakers include:

- ✓ Keep the face and mouth visible to your listeners. Seeing a speaker's face and gestures can help in comprehension.
- ✓ Do not cover the mouth when speaking.
- ✓ Do not talk while your back is to the listeners, for example, when you are writing on the whiteboard
- ✓ Keep the microphone in front of your mouth. If it is a handheld microphone, keep it touching your chin.

Some guidelines for listeners include:

- ✓ Sit close to the speaker to maximize hearing.
- ✓ Let the speaker know when you cannot hear him/her.
- ✓ Do not hold side conversations in the classroom. This is distracting and disrespectful to others.

Coordinators can help, too, by reminding students at the beginning of the class:

- ✓ To raise hands when they want to talk; this is a visual cue for others to turn to the new speaker, and it prevents one person talking over another.
- ✓ To silence electronic devices.

If you are interested in learning more, please join us this summer when Dr. Van Duivenbode speaks to us about dealing with hearing loss.

As always, go to the OLLI @ CSUDH website, <http://www4.csudh.edu/olli/>, to view the current catalog and see the OLLI calendar.





## Computer Talks

May 25th - Noon to 1:00 - L8

### Equipment 102:

## What Else Can Go Wrong With Our Presentation Equipment?

*Presented by Hal Hart and Your Equipment Crew*

Since moving to our new BCHD classrooms last summer and being able to leave our presentation equipment (*laptop, projector, desktop presenter, etc.*) set up permanently, we have avoided the previous litany of breakage and other problems associated with *less-than-perfect* set-up and storage of the equipment. Instead, we're now experiencing an increase in problems we used to see infrequently — for example, memory sticks not being recognized, laptops not displaying on the screen, Internet outages, and just this month both desktop presenters not coming on. But, we have figured out solutions to all of them so far.



This Computer Talk will be a prototype of a new incarnation of Equipment Training. We will cover the above-mentioned and other problems experienced in the past few months, and their solutions as best we know.

Furthermore, we encourage attendees to bring up other problems that have plagued your presentations. We'll try to deal with them in real time. We'll save about half the time for your problems and questions concerning our presentation equipment. Better yet, email [Equipment@Omnilore.org](mailto:Equipment@Omnilore.org) before May 25 with your questions and you will have priority in our preparations.

June 22nd - Noon to 1:00 - L8

## Free Software! Yes, Free Software for PCs and MACs. Don't Pay Another Penny for Commercial Software

*Presented by Rick Spillane*

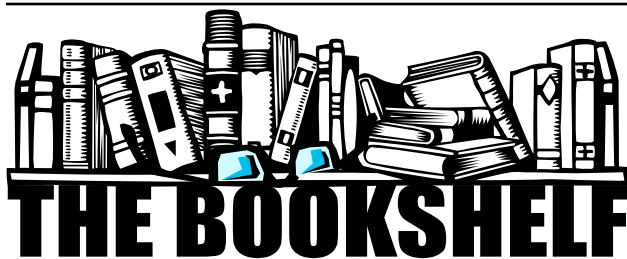
Microsoft is out with Windows 10 and Office 2016. Do you really need to buy new software and maybe even a new computer?

Tired of paying high prices for software? Want to enhance your presentations and computer competence with “Word,” “PowerPoint,” “Excel”? Why pay for expensive software when you can get the same thing free?

Come hear a discussion of LibreOffice 5.3, an “open source” version of Microsoft’s Office, which does everything Office does plus more and is free. Rick Spillane will cover what “open source” software is and why it is both free and legal. We will show how the LibreOffice version of Word and PowerPoint work using actual presentations. If time remains we will briefly discuss how to download and install free versions of Adobe Reader, Anti-virus, and Firewall software programs, and the best email program out there, Thunderbird. Note the software discussed runs on both PCs and Macs.







*The Secret Wife* by **Gill Paul** is a fascinating novel that I found hard to put down. It has the Russian Revolution for history readers, mystery for those that like a mystery and a little romance for the romance people. Starting near the end of the Romanovs rule, about 1915, this captivating story weaves its way through their overthrow.

The daughter, Tatiana, falls in love with a military guard and the story takes several dramatic turns.

The granddaughter of an American journalist finds a journal in her family keepsakes. It is believed to have belonged to Tatiana and the search is on to find out about a grandfather she had never heard of.

This book is a fun way to escape.

*Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* by **Robert M. Pirsig**. It's about a road trip from Minnesota to California. It's about a man trying to re-bond with his estranged 11-year-old son, who is riding on the back of his motorcycle. It's a mystery: who is Phaedrus? It's about psychology, from a complete mental breakdown to competence and self-fulfillment, from the man who went through it. It's about philosophy and an attempt to bridge the gap between romanticism and practicality. There's a section on Gumptionology 101 which has people interested in making a college course on it. It's written in the form of a Chautauqua, an odd form of entertainment back in the day when speakers made tours into the heartland offering meaty subjects to think about deeply and productively. It's a cult book on the order of Atlas Shrugged; some people read it ten times or more. Robert Redford wanted to make a movie of it at one time. It might even make a good Omnilore class some time! Try it, see what you think.

*Rushing Waters* by **Danielle Steel**. Hurricane Ophelia is bearing down on New York City in a matter of hours, and six people, along with their families, friends, and millions of other New Yorkers living around them, will be caught up in the horrific flooding it unleashes.

A day of chaos takes its toll. Lives, belongings, and loved ones are swept away. Heroes are revealed as the city and New Yorkers struggle to face a natural disaster of epic proportions. And then the real challenge begins, as the survivors face their futures, with damage to repair and scars to heal.

Keenly observed and brilliantly told, this is an unforgettable story that proves that while life can change in an instant, even the darkest storm can bring forth courage, resilience, unexpected joy, and new life.

*Book suggestions from Omniloreans make this column work. Thanks to Vickie Volchok and Rich Mansfield for contributing to this month's list. Please send your reads to johansmith@ca.rr.com. Include title, author and a brief description.*

## In Memoriam

### Tony Lopilato

A long-time financial services executive, Tony was accustomed to an intensely busy life; so when he retired in 2003, he joined Omnilore with his wife, Carol, hoping to continue the stimulation he was used to. He focused on social studies and short story S/DGs and also helped organize Omnilore trips to the Hudson Valley and France.

Tony studied business administration at St. John's University, first securing a bachelor's degree and later his MBA as his career in the world of commercial financing developed. He and Carol traveled with their children and, later, grandchildren throughout the United States and to various places around the world, most recently celebrating his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday with the entire family in France. With family members involved in such wide ranging fields as music, business, mathematics, education and engineering, Tony and Carol invested in the lives of their children, which resulted in their children investing in the lives of the grandchildren. Having developed Parkinson's five years ago, he passed away April 23 at the age of 84.



### Sherry May

A long-time resident in Palos Verdes, Sherry was most recently appreciated for her work as founder and director of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Village whose concept she introduced in 2013. This revolves around seniors who want to remain in their homes and the communities they love as they get older and still have social connections, support and enrichment.

Dr. May taught in the Religious Studies Department at California State University, Northridge for many years before going to USC, where she had responsibilities for alumni relations, was Dean of the College of Continuing Education and Vice Provost, Continuing Studies. She chaired the Palos Verdes Peninsula branch of the American Association of University Women in 2012-2014, receiving the Helen Thomas Award from the YWCA of Greater Los Angeles for her volunteer work.

During her retirement, she joined Omnilore with husband Bill in early 2012. She liked topics on science, history and current world problems. She fought cancer for the last seven months of her life, passing peacefully on March 14, a few months before she would have celebrated her 81<sup>st</sup> birthday.



## OMNILORE CALENDAR 2017

- May**
- 1 Summer Trimester Begins
  - 5 **Cinco de Mayo**
  - 8 Best Sellers Book Group—12 Noon.-1 p.m., L8
  - 11 Board of Directors Meeting—12 Noon-2 p.m., L8
  - 14 **Mother's Day**
  - 20 **Armed Forces Day**
  - 25 Computer Talk—12 Noon-1 p.m., L8  
Equipment 102—Hal Hart & Crew  
(see article, page 8)
  - 29 **Memorial Day**
- June**
- 8 Board of Directors Meeting—12 Noon-2 p.m., L8
  - 9 Walking Group—10 a.m.-12 Noon
  - 12 Best Sellers Book Group—12 Noon.-1 p.m., L8
  - 14 **Flag Day**
  - 15 Input Deadline for July-August 2017 Newsletter
  - 18 **Father's Day**
  - 21 First Day of Summer
  - 22 Computer Talk—12 Noon-1 p.m., L8  
Free Software for PCs & MACs—Rick Spillane  
(see article, page 8)
  - 29 Introducing Omnilore Meeting—1:30 p.m., L8
- August**
- 4 Introducing Omnilore Meeting—1:30 p.m., L8



### 2017 Forums

Winter—January 31st  
Spring—April 28th  
Summer—July 31st  
Annual Mtg.—October 31st

### IMPORTANT:

Calendar changes and additions  
are scheduled with Lynn Taber  
[johnlynntaber@gmail.com](mailto:johnlynntaber@gmail.com)

**Visit the Omnilore website at [Omnilore.org](http://Omnilore.org)! Key Omnilore volunteers can be contacted via email.**

President@Omnilore.org  
VP-Academics@Omnilore.org  
VP-Administration@Omnilore.org  
Curriculum@Omnilore.org (new S/DG suggestions)  
Forum@Omnilore.org (Forum Committee)  
Publicity@Omnilore.org (send your PR ideas)

Registrar@Omnilore.org (send updates to contact info)  
Newsletter@Omnilore.org (submit articles or news)  
Admin@Omnilore.org (Johan Smith)  
Supplies@Omnilore.org (need to replenish cups, plates ...)  
Equipment@Omnilore.org (report equipment issues)  
Webmaster@Omnilore.org

CWG@Omnilore.org (propose a Computer Talk)  
Best-Sellers@Omnilore.org (book discussion group)  
Walking-Group@Omnilore.org  
Calendar@Omnilore.org (room requests for pre-meetings)  
SDG-Folders@Omnilore.org (help uploading class files)  
Technology@Omnilore.org (new Technology Committee)

**[Membership@Omnilore.org](mailto:Membership@Omnilore.org)** (inquiries about joining Omnilore, or referring friends)