



OMNILORE NEWS



Volume 29 Issue 2

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March 2020

DON'T MISS – IN THIS ISSUE

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Some Things to Consider During the Crisis

by Judy Bayer

For many of us, our world seems pretty dark and hopeless right now. We are glued to our screens, hoping for good news, but more often than not reading or hearing reports that fill us with frustration, fear, or a sense of helplessness. We all have experienced life-changing events over the years, and though they were devastating in many ways, we and our nation have survived. We know what we've gone through, and we have learned to face anything with a *confidence from experience* – not just hoping and putting on a happy face.

As we navigate the current troubled waters, we should follow the public health guidelines for COVID-19 and while doing so, explore how we can maintain a sense of purpose and of optimism during the crisis. Perhaps the following suggestions will ease our anxieties.

Increase your own sense of well-being by caring, giving, and acts of kindness toward others.

- ✓ Expressions of gratitude more often – a simple “Thank you”;
- ✓ A connected conversation in which you are actively listening to the other person, understanding his/her concerns, responding empathetically;
- ✓ A slower-paced conversation to calm the chaos;
- ✓ Concentrating on the positive;

Reduce Stress – Slow Down

- ✓ Try some expressive writing techniques;
- ✓ Eat well;
- ✓ Enjoy frequent walks (while maintaining a six foot distance);
- ✓ Read more, including poetry;
- ✓ Stay in touch with friends and loved ones;

Stay Healthy

- ✓ Avoid / Stay away from sick people;
- ✓ Wash your hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand cleaner;
- ✓ Keep hands away from eyes, nose, and mouth;
- ✓ Disinfect public counters, desks, common areas, phones, keyboards, etc.;
- ✓ Use disinfectant wipes identified for use against Influenza A&B and Coronavirus;
- ✓ If you have symptoms (fever, cough, vomiting, difficulty breathing) stay home and call your doctor;
- ✓ Remain home until you have spoken with your doctor or health provider and are cleared to return to work; and
- ✓ Cover your coughs and sneezes.

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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.

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

Editor	Judy Bayer
Staff Member	TBD

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Steve Miller

Earlier this year one of our female members wrote several members of the Board to inquire why there were not more female elected officers and committee chairpersons. Those two groups comprise the Omnilore Board. Let me first review how the positions are filled. There are nine officers who are elected by the Omnilore members at the annual meeting held as part of the October forum luncheon. They are nominated by the Nominating Committee which consists of five members and is chaired by the president unless he is a candidate for reelection in which case the committee is chaired by the past president. The slate of officers selected by the committee is approved by the Board. Nominations from the floor are accepted at the annual meeting. The past president is also a member of the Board but votes only in the case of a tie vote. The term of office for both the elected officers and the committee chairpersons is one year.

The six committee chairpersons are chosen by the president with the advice of the Executive Committee and the approval of the Board. The president and the two vice-presidents comprise the Executive Committee. Of the six committee chairpersons whom I appointed to the current Board, three are male and three are female.

Frank Pohlner, the immediate past president, responded to the inquiry I mentioned above. Here is the relevant portion of his response:

“I was the Nominating Committee Chairperson. The Chair is the outgoing president or the past-president if the current president is running. I selected four women for the committee: one from the existing Board and three from the membership. These were voted on and approved by the Board. (One female

member died before the last person was nominated and she was replaced by a male.) Our candidate list was approximately two-thirds female. Most refused to accept a nomination.”

Ruth Hart, another past president, also responded and below is the relevant portion of her response:

“It varies from year to year. I believe that last year a majority of the Board were women. However, I don’t believe we have had a female President after me, about 10 years ago. Some of this is because women are more likely to turn the nominating committee down. I was on last year’s nominating committee and I can think of several women who refused the offer to be on the Board. Also, had she not passed away, Jean Custer would have continued as Academic VP and would probably have been the next President. ... People on the nominating committees use their experience in S/DGs and standing committees to identify candidates. Volunteers for the committees are always welcome.”

I want to second Ruth’s statement about our desire to have new committee volunteers. Later this year we plan to have an “open house” for all interested Omnilore members where members of the existing Board will discuss activities of the standing committees. We also will explain in more detail what the officers do. I hope this will provide the information and incentive for more members to join Omnilore committees. We continually need new leaders to keep Omnilore moving forward.



“And Now, a word from our sponsor. . .”

by Carolyn Pohlner

Omnilore traditionally holds six orientation sessions throughout the year – two each trimester in the Fall, two in the Spring and two in the Summer. The Membership Committee conducts these sessions by having volunteers explain the features of our unique peer-led learning environment. The Committee is comprised of long-time Omniloreans **Howard Korman, Jo-ann Bally, Jim North, Yvette Reiner, Jeanne Wilson** and Membership Chair, **Carolyn Pohlner**. 2019 newcomer, **Martin Ageson**, joined our ranks this past Fall. Different members take turns at each meeting, listing the benefits—making new friends for instance, plus enriching educational experiences with stimulating discussions—and outlining the requirements of joining Omnilore – such as, every member must make a presentation. We also assist potential members in completing Course Selection and Registration forms. This ‘crack crew’ has efficiently streamlined the entire presentation to under an hour, entertaining questions from the audience along the way!



Our most recent “Introduction to Omnilore” (IO) session was held on February 21, 2020. Nine guests had contacted Carolyn Pohlner, or Johan Smith, Omnilore Administrative Assistant, prior to the scheduled date, expressing an interest in learning more about the group. Of those nine, six attended, including two pairs of married couples – we are actually seeing more and more spouses coming together to the orientations, usually at the wife’s behest, and often resulting in one of the pair joining immediately!

This February’s meeting produced **two** new Omniloreans, who both signed up for Summer courses. So, be sure to extend a hearty “Welcome!” to **Jane Affonso** and **Judith Bunch** should you meet them at a Forum, or in your classes, or at one of our ever-popular SIG events!

All the attendees at the February meeting, including Jane and Judith, heard about Omnilore from friends and neighbors who are also members, which brings me to one of the main reasons for this article – advertising! I’ve been keeping record of how guests learn about Omnilore and *almost all* have been referred by members like you. It is through everyone’s efforts that our organization continues to thrive and grow – YOUR word of mouth is extremely influential! So, please, keep those rave reviews coming and ask a friend to attend. Did I mention that refreshments will be served?!

Omnilore Profile: Mitch Blake

by Judy Bayer

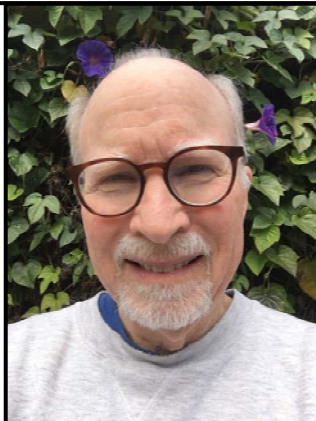
Mitch Blake, a member of the Omnilore Board of Directors, brings a wealth of valuable experience and ingenuity to our organization. He retired just three years ago after a 27-year career at The RAND Corporation where he was on the support side of the operation, primarily handling financial matters. Of his career with RAND Mitch says, "It is a unique organization and great place to work." RAND was one of the first, if not the first, "think tanks", and Mitch thought it covered a wide breadth of policy topics while maintaining its vision of objective analysis with effective solutions, though the bulk of its funding came from different branches of the U.S. Government. Their answer was the same regardless of who was in power, and they tried very hard to be impartial and unbiased. Mitch does not believe that any of the other "think tanks" have the breadth of policy expertise that RAND has.

Mitch grew up in Orange County, in the city of Brea. He attended the University of California, San Diego where he majored in economics. After working for the county of San Diego as an economic analyst, Mitch earned his Master of Business Administration from the University of California, Los Angeles. He worked close to eleven years in the private sector in financial analysis, a career that prepared him quite well for his tenure at RAND.

Mitch met his wife, Judy, at an event sponsored by a religious organization. They have been married for 36 years and have raised three sons. Recently, they were delighted with the birth of their first grandchild, another boy, Ezra, who currently is a year old. Judy and Mitch get to watch him one day a week, and he has become the joy of their lives.

Judy is an art therapist by training. After raising their sons, she initially taught art classes in elementary schools and later at various schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District through the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. She is an accomplished artist working in fused glass creating beautiful jewelry and plates.

When queried about how he found out about Omnilore, Mitch responded that he was looking for programs that included classes promoting intellectual stimulation. He was aware of the Plato Society and thought that might be too intense. Fortunately, he found Omnilore online and signed up for an Orientation Session on the website. After hearing about all that Omnilore had to offer, Mitch became a member and has



enjoyed his class experience. He mostly takes classes that are non-fiction and has particularly enjoyed the *History of Iran*, *Urban Design*, *How Democracy Dies*, and *The Fifth Risk*, a book about the incoming transition of the Trump administration, the ensuing political appointments, and the often overlooked critical functions performed by the United States Government. As you can imagine, the topic made for really interesting discussions. Mitch also enjoyed the classes on *Chekov's Short Stories* and *Edgar Allen Poe*, a fascinating person who led a very odd life. His enthusiasm for the classes in which he has participated is contagious.

Mitch's vision for Omnilore includes more variety in the classes offered and more choices in literature, short stories, and the arts. To increase membership, he believes that OLLI and Omnilore could work more effectively together, and that we should advertise or promote Omnilore at senior centers in the area, including in-person reaching out to folks.

Just prior to his retirement, Mitch started Mitchell Financial Planning, a fee-only personal financial planning practice where he helps clients with their personal financial issues including investments and retirement planning. Mitch also volunteers through the AARP Tax-Aide program where he prepares tax returns without charge for low and moderate-income taxpayers.

In addition, Mitch volunteers at the UCLA Law school where he role plays as a witness at depositions and/or trials. He remembers the time as a witness he was the lead investigator in a criminal case, a bank robbery. During his cross examination, he unintentionally left out a very important piece of evidence. When the lawyer asked about the information, he was amazed that in his nervousness at being a witness, he had forgotten it. It was quite a lesson in how the judicial system works and how vulnerable we all are when it comes to accurate and complete recall.

Recently, Mitch and Judy traveled to Argentina to visit a niece who was spending a semester abroad in Buenos Aires. This trip was followed by a journey to Australia where they visited Kangaroo Island and enjoyed connecting with family in Perth and Melbourne.

The retirement lifestyle took a bit of adjustment; however, Mitch is now enjoying the freedom to pursue what he truly enjoys. His advice: "Find things that interest you. Go for it. Rediscover what you loved when you were younger."

The
Next

INTRODUCING OMNIOLORE MEETINGS:

L8 Tuesday, June 30th - 1:30 p.m.

L8 Friday, July 17th - 10 a.m.

Help Spread the Word! RSVP 310-370-2494



CANCELLED**Omnilore Walking Group****Terranea Discovery Trail: April 10th (Friday) – 10:00 A.M.***by Dennis Bosch*

This walking outing features:

An easy (2.2 mile, 183' elevation gain) out and back trail (with some steps) with views of the ocean along, passing through the Terranea resort on the way to a beautiful beach.

Friendly dogs are OK on this hike, but dogs must be on a leash. Dogs are not allowed on the beach trail turnaround.

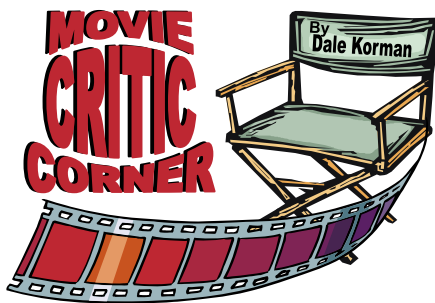
Meet at **10 a.m.** in the parking lot in the Pelican Cove Parking Area (31300 Palos Verdes Drive S., Rancho Palos Verdes, 0.5 miles east of the Point Vincente exit)

All Omnilore members (and their guests) are always welcome to participate in our excursions. We accommodate all speeds of walkers, so give it a try if our next route appeals to you.

Please R.S.V.P. to walking-group@omnilore.org by April 6th.



Above: two views from the trail; bottom: aerial view of the Terranea Resort.



The Call of the Wild centers around Buck, a former domestic pet who becomes a working dog in 19th century Alaska.

John Thornton, played by Harrison Ford, is a prospector during the Klondike Gold Rush of the 1890s who discovers Buck who has been abused by his owners and decides to bring the dog along on his quest. Buck "heeded" the call of the wild - to slough off his domestic experience

and to feel a part of nature. The ultimate theme of this film is that we are all animals among nature and are responsible for taking care of it. As Ford stated, "Nature doesn't need people; people need nature to survive, to thrive." Luckily, Ford and the cast didn't have to do much surviving during filming, as the harsh, freezing winters of the Yukon were mostly recreated on Southern California sets, and all the wild animals were computer-generated - including Buck. After endless adventures, Buck returns to the wilderness. There, he mates and has offspring with the white wolf and becomes the pack leader, fully embracing the call of the wild. Jack London is the author of this novel written in 1903. This is director Chris Sanders' debut film. Rotten Tomatoes rated it as 61%. Unfortunately, it did not do well in the box office and probably will lose about \$50 million. Even so, the Omnilore Movie Goers SIG was interested in seeing this film until the virus scare caused the decision to postpone their gathering. Watch for it on Netflix.



Dale Korman—howarddale@verizon.net

A Report on Omnilore's Winter Forum: Omnilorean John Simpson On *The Decline of Newspapers*

by *Teddie Milner*

President, Steve Miller opened the January 2020 Omnilore Forum with a brief welcome to the guests assembled at the Los Verdes Golf Club. An introduction of J. Kim McNutt, the Dean of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, College of Extended and International Education at CSUDH followed. Dean McNutt warned that his time for a presentation was compressed because there were meetings back at Campus that required his attendance. He limited his discussion to the question he most wanted to address: declining enrollments. His message: we're preparing! The Dean compared The College of Extended Education to a "Swiss Army Knife" of higher education, because no matter what you want to learn about—we have it! This unprecedented access to educational opportunities provides for personal enrichment and career advancement, which puts us in a favorable position. The goal of The Extended Education Program is to be all things to all people but not at the cost of the students' ability to choose. Here are a few important factors being considered as part of the preparation for the future:

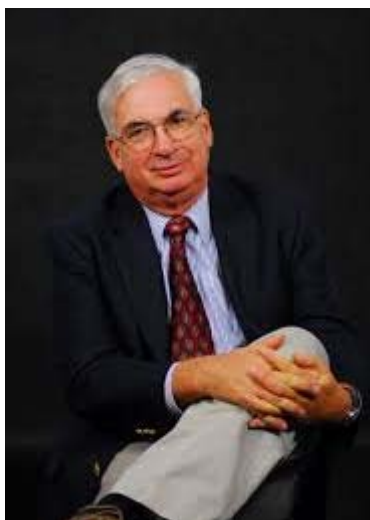
The population of 18 year-old students is declining

Admissions continues to enjoy more student applicants than available spots

Retraining will become a big source of enrollment in the future

The Dean concluded his remarks by encouraging us to continue to learn and participate in Omnilore. He suggested that now more than ever in the history of education, humans have so many opportunities to learn — from Kindergarten through 100 years old.

President Miller thanked Dean McNutt and asked Bob Mal-lano, the Forum Committee Chair, to introduce our Forum speaker. Our intended speaker had an emergency and could not appear.



John Simpson

It began with an email late in the evening before the January Forum. Our scheduled speaker emailed to say that he had to cancel his speaking engagement with us for the following day as his mother had just passed away. Some members still awake (the night owls) considered options to fill in. No good alternatives presented themselves; however, in the morning Linda Jensen (one of the early birds) called John Simpson and asked if he had presentation material that would allow him to

be the speaker and if so, would he be willing to do it. He said yes! And, this was only about four hours before the Forum

luncheon was scheduled. John has a background in reporting and editing newspapers. His presentation addressed the declining future of the newspaper industry and was very well received and appreciated by the Forum attendees. Thanks, John, for a great speech and for saving our bacon.

As mentioned, after a series of midnight calls, John Simpson agreed to make a presentation. Fortunately, he was ready with a topic he knew we'd be interested in, "The Decline of Newspapers." He is a remarkable individual with a rich and rather unique background. If you would like to read more about this fellow Omnilorean, John Simpson, take a look at the November issue of the Omnilore News and the profile of John that must have been hard to restrict to a single page.

John Simpson began his talk with a statement we didn't expect, "Don't let the facts get in the way of a good story." The audience chuckled. This launched our presenter into the story of how he met his wife of 42 years. It was in Binghamton, New York; she was Carol, a single talented assistant to John at Gannett News.

In no time Carol and John were dating. Well, you know what happened. This is just one of the ways John suggested that journalism had been very good to him. For Simpson, it has been an interesting, challenging career and a happy life. He was fortunate to have worked during what he called the "Golden Age" of journalism. In the "Golden Age" there were many more reporters and lots of camaraderie among staff, with time for investigative reporting. Now fewer reporters are covering more topics with less detail and accuracy. Some reporters deal with the pressure of constant time demands to update a website, minute by minute. It was a different time in 1984, when John became the managing editor of USA today's International Edition. It allowed for lots of travel, living abroad and careful news reporting.

"The Decline of Newspapers," provided an overview of what was covered in the session: Circulation plummeting, Revenue crashing, Newsroom employment down, News media under attack, Possible implications, What can be done? Simpson explained why the last half of the 20th Century was the best of times. At the time the goal was to provide objective reporting on news pages. Opinions were confined to the editorial pages or oped pages and sometimes to columnists. Readers had a shared understanding of the facts because of the attempt to be objective in reporting. The L. A. times once employed 1400 reporters; now there are only 400 reporters and a greater need for news minute by minute. Reporters are asked to do more with fewer resources. The L. A. Times had 14 overseas bureaus, and now they have one. All the while, circulation is plummeting, revenues are declining and fewer newspapers remain vital.

The estimated total U.S. daily newspaper circulation in 2018 was 28.6 million for weekday and *Continued on Page 6*



Continued from Page 5: Winter Forum Report

30.8 million on Sunday, a decrease of 8% and 9%. Over the last 15 years, circulation has plummeted by 40%. In the last few years, one in five newspapers has closed down. The number of newspapers has decreased from 122,000 to 73,000, with even the largest newspapers declining in daily circulation. In 2018 there were only 53 daily newspapers left. Newspaper revenue is crashing because of what is happening with advertising. Newspapers were not just a source of news, but also key to commerce in the form of display and classified ads. Distribution and production costs used to be covered by income from advertising. Classified and display ads were considered a license to print money. In 2000, ads accounted for \$19.6B in revenue or 40% of income for newspapers. By 2012 they accounted for only \$4.6 billion, and support only 18% of ad revenue, a drop of 77%. Digital advertising increased revenue, but not by much. What was the cause of the declines? On-line competition – the explosion of the Internet increased the range of media ad choices available. Free choices like Craigslist have nearly decimated the classified advertising department of newspapers.

As newspaper revenues have been squeezed, the competition is thriving: Craigslist cost the newspaper industry \$5.4B from 2000-2007, Google and Facebook get 75 to 80 percent of online advertising revenue and do not pay for content. Lower circulation usually means lower ad rates. Newspapers ad sales are reported as \$19.5B. New sources of media do not need union contracts, printing presses, delivery fleets and the built in overhead established years ago. For the most part, many of the competitors are aggregators of news. They obtain their material from print sources, without the print media's capital-intensive overhead. It has been reported that 80% of online news comes from print media. All the while, newsroom employment is falling for the third year in a row. Career Cast's survey of the best and worst jobs in the U.S. reports that the job of a newspaper reporter was voted the worst career. A reporter has fewer job prospects because of financial instability, which has caused many publications to close down. The average annual salary for print journalists is \$37,200. Newsrooms are staffed by 79% college graduates, while 17% have a high school education, but college educated newsroom employees earn less than other college educated workers.

What was the impact of the closure of Newspapers? Civil engagement declined by 30%. People don't know what is going on in their community. This is the beauty of print. When you thumb through the newspaper, you see information you might not otherwise learn about. Because 1449 counties have no daily newspaper, people rely on social media. This is concerning as some will select to receive only news that reaffirms their beliefs. Warren Buffett sold the newspapers he owned. Was it because the newspaper was becoming less profitable? Or, could it be that he lost his belief in the value of journalism? The Harrisburg, Pennsylvania newspaper asked readers what they would like to see in their newspaper. The answer: local news. The paper switched from being a daily to a three-day-a-week newspaper, which includes local news. European newspapers are on the web. Ireland is flooded with newspapers. The Guardian has an online presence. As an example, cited The Daily Breeze. It has fewer reporters than it used to. The circulation is down. "They do have an online presence, but it is not the paper it used to be," Simpson said. Now that more mistakes get made, there is a need to

make corrections more prominent. If you work in a newsroom that had 30 reporters and now has 15, clearly you have to do more work to produce the same material.

In the future, how will our grandkids get their news? They currently use an iPad for reading. News will be online and digital with a vast number of options of how to get it. It may be fragmental media reinforcing a reader's beliefs. Or, it could be one of the new online models that do not have the historic costs of print. Or, one of the not for profit models that will become available. Paywalls* are a relatively new thing, which will charge for online news. The Salt Lake Tribune went non-profit, sharing investigative reporters with other venues. It is all in flux. We need to return to the objective reporting we used to enjoy. Depending on location and circumstances, each specific newspaper will face varied threats and changes. On a positive note, the New York Times, the Washington Post and the Wall Street Journal all have added staff and reporters to their newsrooms.



Shepard Smith

Simpson suggested that the more Trump attacks the press, the further it undermines reporters' ability to do their important and vital work. Shepard Smith, a former Fox news anchor, was quoted saying: "Autocrats have learned to use online tools and social media to shore up their power. Smith also said, "Intimidation and vilification of the press is now a global phenomenon."

Stay tuned.....the times they are a changing.

For extra credit, what is the average amount of time a reader stays on a newspaper's website? Why? One site refers to another site. Delivery of news through websites is generally headlines with brief information about national news without local news.

Answer: According to the Press Gazette, a study shows online news readers average 30 seconds a day vs 40 minutes for print readers.

[*A paywall is a method of restricting access to content via a purchase or paid subscription.

When newspapers first offered content online, many offered it for free thinking it would promote their print editions. It didn't work out that way, so now most newspapers put their content behind a paywall.

Beginning in the mid-2010s, newspapers started implementing paywalls on their websites as a way to increase revenue. Paywalls have also been used as a way of increasing the number of print subscribers; for example, some newspapers offer access to online content plus delivery of a Sunday print edition at a lower price than online access alone.

Some may offer access to limited free content, perhaps three or four articles a month, as a promotional tool.]





Notes from CSUDH
by J. Kim McNutt

Dean, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
College of Extended & International Education
CSUDH

By Lynda Wilson, Guest Writer

Spring 2020 term is up and running. So many things are in store for our students in Spring 2020 above and beyond the learning that is currently underway. I enjoy living in southern California with our forever summer weather, but still enjoy when Winter turns to Spring because we gain more sunlight each day. The beginning of daylight saving time on 3/8/20 will allow each of us time to enjoy the great outdoors. Also, Spring 2020 is important because of the California Primary Election on 3/3/20; we get to stand up as California citizens and have our vote counted. This year California residents can vote at a variety of Voting Centers and CEIE's auditorium will serve as a voting center for the Primary Election. We are pleased to partner with LA County and provide this service to residents throughout South Bay. This year's General Election in November will be critically important too, and if our auditorium is selected to be a Voting Center, I'll let you know. To garner excitement amongst OLLI@CSUDH members about the 2020 Primary and General Election, a travel program will take members to Washington, D.C., Niagara Falls, and New York City. This exciting trip is scheduled right before the election (Oct. 16-24). An information session is planned for March 3/3/20. Travel buddies are welcome if they are not OLLI/Omniole members. Finally, please mark your calendars for 4/10/20 for the OLLI Budget Town Hall from 11 a.m. – Noon presented by Dean McNutt and Sr. Business Officer Ed Cleek. The Budget Town Hall will be held in the CEIE Auditorium, and we hope that you can come.

Laura Guneau
Ralph Brown
Petrina Long
Stu Watson
Vera Minami

Kudos to Outstanding Presentations

In each trimester survey, members are asked to recommend those in their class who gave outstanding presentations. Please find these listed below. Those in purple were recommended for more than one class they took during that trimester.

Thanks to all of you for making our lives more interesting and informed!

Outstanding Presentations Summer 2019

Gloria Martin
Jay Edie
Rick Spillane
Emilie Elias
Bill Irwin
Ronnie Lemmi
Carlos Lemmi
Dick Balsam
Dayla Sims
Donna Wong
Linda Jenson
Don Tlougan
Tom Vincent
Claire Damecour
Kathleen Fitzgerald
Janet Moser
Mary Watson
John Simpson
Grace Tanaka
Sally Moite
Ray Destabelle
Martin Ageson
Rose Kolas
MJ Kutkus
Carmen Svensrud
Jim North
Judy North
Jim Slattery
Mitch Blake
Ruth Hart
Carol Simone
Steven Kolodny
Ace Rosen
Dan Stern
Glenn Tanaka
Leslie Criswell
Gary Fletcher
Faye Schwartz
Bob Caplan
KC Johnson
Jeanne Wilson
Mercedes Ortiz
Jean Steinmetz
Marie Gleeurup
Michael Minchella

Outstanding Presentations Fall 2019

Marie Gleeurup
Jean de Angelis
Carol Simone
Joan Kolic
Ralph Brown
Bob Mallano
Elaine Winer
Dale Korman
Janet Christy
Eunice Kramer
Art Irizarry
Don Tlougan
Sandy Pickar
Ken Pickar
Paul Lieberman
Flyse Gura
Bob Hoersch
MJ Kutkus
Jay Edie
Vera Minami
Mary Watson
Joann Bailey
Cathy Gallipeau
Mercedes Ortiz
Cindy Eggert
Susan Reedquist
KC Johnson
Dayla Sims
Ralph Black
Barbara Case
Ralph Ford
Bonnie Bailer
Jim North
John Simpson
Karol McQueary
Gary Hawkins
Joann Bailey
Brian Bailey
Cindy Eggert
H.E. Kamiya
Jerry Bichlmeier
Rich Gleeurup

Movie Goers Special Interest Group

by Dale Korman

Happy to say that our SIG - the Movie Goers - was able to gather together to see "Little Women" directed by woman director, Greta Gerwig, and discuss the movie at Mimi's afterwards. As always, we had a wide range of opinions that were mostly positive. However, it was obvious that many preferred an earlier version with Liz Taylor, Janet Leigh, June Allyson, and Peter Lawford filmed in 1949. Regardless, Rotten Tomatoes rated this 2019 film as 95%. The website's critics consensus reads, "With a stellar cast and a smart, sensitive retelling of its classic source material, Greta Gerwig's 'Little Women' proves some stories truly are timeless." All agreed that this director should have been recognized as worthy of being nominated for an Oscar. Keep an eye on what she has created for us in the future.

Unfortunately, for March, our SIG had to cancel due to the coronavirus emergency. Hopefully, we'll be able to resume going to the movies together soon.

Contact - Dale Korman - (howarddale@verizon.net) for further information or to suggest films that would be of interest to see in the coming months. Or, see the Omnilore Website that Hal has so diligently updated for us. Certainly, watching movies at home will help us get through these very uncertain times.

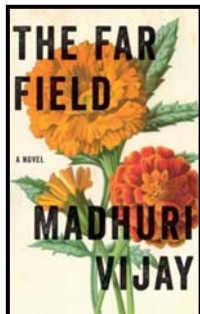
Kudos to Our Movie Goers!

Early Spring Best Sellers SIG Reads

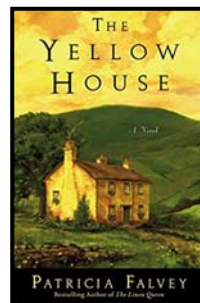
by Patricia Edie & Cindy Eggert

Calling all "Readers!" Omnilore's Best Sellers Special Interest Group is scheduled 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! **These meetings have been cancelled during the coronavirus emergency.** Upcoming book selections for the early spring months are:

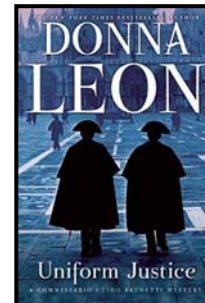
Future Reads



Monday,
March 9:
Fiction
The Far Field
by
Madhuri
Vijay



Non-Fiction
*The
Yellow
House*
by Sarah Broom



Fiction
*Uniform
Justice*
by
Donna Leon

As with any SIG, you do not need to register to participate...just show up on the date prepared to participate. We always have interesting and stimulating discussions! Guests are always welcomed.



What a strange, strange trip it's been...As you all know, the second half of the spring trimester was impacted by Covid19.

A few hardy individuals ran their SDGs using Zoom meetings. Bravo! I hosted meetings for LSD, LA2 and BSF and attended one for BOS. It can be done! April will continue much the same. I encourage coordinators to try Zoom and invite their members to join them.

For the new trimester beginning in May, we will start with online meetings. Even the pre-meetings will be online! I know you can do it. Summer coordinators information meeting will not take place. Instead I will send you the charts of information via email and remain available for any questions or comments.

I will teach you to use Zoom as well. Just contact me.

Hang in there, we'll get through this, and take extra good care of yourselves.

clairedamecour@yahoo.com



*Claire Damecour
Head Coordinator*



PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS WORKSHOP

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Room L8

THE BARE NECESSITIES WILL BE YOURS . . .

. . . when you discover how to prepare for a class presentation or discussion questions at the **PRESENTATION and DISCUSSION QUESTIONS WORKSHOP** on Wednesday, April 29, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in Room L8.



Join your fellow Omniloreans both new and experienced and learn how to create a fabulous presentation. No matter the topic, whether it be classes such as *History of the World in 6 Glasses*, *The Body: A Guide for its Occupants*, *The Browns and California History* or a short story collection, you will gain perspective and knowledge of the possibilities available to you after observing the examples of PowerPoint, Desktop Projector, and a Musical, Epicurean, or Dramatic demonstration.

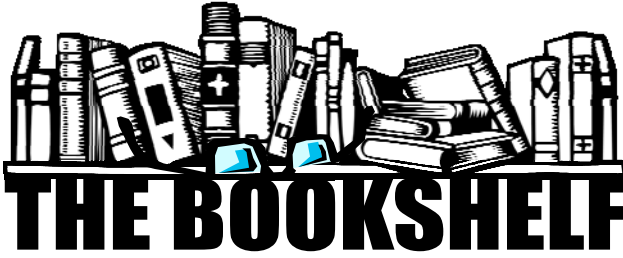
You also will participate in a demonstration of how to frame engaging, thoughtful questions that will inspire thought-provoking dialog among your classmates, promote stirring give and take discussions and encourage appreciation and respect for divergent opinions.

Be sure to mark your calendars for this fun, hands-on workshop designed for YOU. And, remember that last year 100% of those who attended said they would recommend the workshop to a friend.

Some Smiles from the January Forum



1. Dean J. Kim McNutt, CEIE; 2. President Steve & Andria Miller; 3. Patricia & Jay Edie; 4. Lindie Banks; 5. Lynn Schubert; 6. Ace & Pauline Rosen; 7. Diana Hosken; 8. Ed Cleek, CFO/CEIE & Nicole Pacada, Acting OLLI Director ; 9. Mary Watson with Rich & Jenia Mansfield; 10. Rob & Sara Cole; 11. Linda Jenson and Marilyn Brashear; 12. Michael Feygin; 13. Howard & Dale Korman; 14. Lori Geittmann; 15. Omnilore's snowbirds: Gail & Connie Siegel and Paula Witkin; 16. Bob Bacinski and guest, Irene Brown.



Atlas Shrunken by Randy Anderson.

4 stars, 351 pages (seems like 150)

The book is written from the point of view of a Wharton MBA who sounds like Sam Spade. He works for a forensic accounting company that investigates white collar crimes, and he gets suckered into

investigating credit default swaps. It's in the noir style, yet it nevertheless gives the clearest description of the 2008 meltdown I've ever read, plus it's fun reading.

In the process, he begins to wonder "if the lights are even on at the Securities and Exchange Commission." He learns what it's like to fly first class and talk to a Rothstein (placing errant offspring at the head of an international bank is what you do to keep your kids out of trouble).

And, he meets a girl.

"What does one do with a bachelor's in music and a master's in social psychology?" I inquire.

"In general? I help bring music into the world, and I help people overcome whatever challenges they have the courage to face. What do you do with an MBA ... in general?" She smiles at me again – a little less sweetly this time.

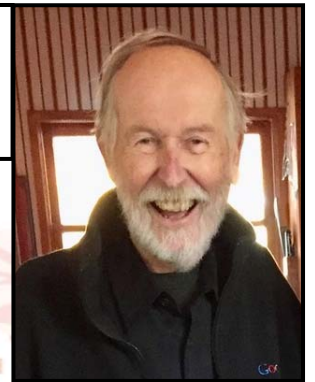
Try it. You'll like it.

Book suggestions from Omniloreans make this column work. Thanks to Rich Mansfield for contributing to this issue's list.

Send submittals to:
newsletter@omnilore.org

In Memoriam—Bill May

Many thanks to Karen May, Bill's daughter, who shared her thoughts and memories about her dad for this article.



Born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Bill was one of four children, the third and only boy of Mae and Ernest May. A very bright student, he also played golf and the trumpet while enjoying singing.

He attended Columbia University and even though he became a city boy, he still, as his daughter, Karen, said, sent his laundry home on a train to Milwaukee.

After college, Bill enlisted in the Army and was stationed in Germany. He traveled frequently and fell in love with Switzerland, a country he often returned to with his wife, Sherry, and family. He also earned a major business ethics grant while at USC and retired from USC in 2007.

Returning to the states, Bill earned his Doctorate and became an ordained minister at Drew Seminary in New Jersey, a very memorable place as he met Sherry there. He had a particular interest in social ethics and civil rights. At about this time, Bill spent a summer as a minister in Stockbridge, MA. After his experience as a minister, Bill focused his interests on academics.

In 1967, Bill and Sherry moved to Southern California, and Bill joined the USC's School of Religion where he studied and taught several courses in ethics. His medical ethics interests included death and dying and hospice care.

With the California Medical Association and the Institute for Medical Quality, Bill developed and taught a weekend-long medical ethics seminar for physicians (and eventually pharmacists) who had a violation and were "sentenced" to some education in order to keep or regain their licenses. His family called it "traffic school for doctors" or simply his "bad docs" class. Bill continued in this program for 40 years, retiring in 2018.

Bill and Sherry loved to entertain, loved stimulating conversations and hearty laughter. He is fondly remembered for the exuberant "hello" that greeted all who came to his door.

Bill pursued his many interests with enthusiasm: sailing, scuba diving, golf, running, hiking, photography, jazz and current events. If he were driving somewhere, and there was a route that would take him near the ocean, he took it. Karen and Steve are sure Bill's love of the ocean was the driving energy behind their abiding love of the water.

Both Bill and Sherry loved to travel, and their adventures circled the globe. Their most memorable adventures were likely their two trips on Semester at Sea, a study abroad program, where they taught classes and traveled the world. They made about 10 hiking trips to Switzerland - some with family and some with friends, including the last one for their 55th anniversary in 2015.

In an ongoing effort to continually expand his world, Bill read the New York Times (of course!), the Wall Street Journal to make sure he saw a different view, and the Los Angeles Times for local news every day. Even in his last weeks, when his ability to read and absorb was limited, he picked up the newspapers and paged through - noting words and phrases in order to stay informed. When his hiking became limited, Bill took up photography. He attended classes and developed amazing skill, though he never considered himself a photographer. His photos are wonderful, according to Karen, and help both Karen and Steve see what he saw when he looked at the world, especially the faces.

Bill and Sherry had a very special marriage; they loved and respected one another, and truly enjoyed being in the world together, learning together, and enjoying life. Part of the learning was taking classes at Omnilore. They discovered a shared interest in studying Shakespeare and took great pleasure in reading (or re-reading) his well-known and lesser known works.

Bill's daughter, Karen, describes her dad as a person who was curious, quick to laugh, loved to tease, loved his strong coffee, and loved to share a glass of wine (the Bill May pour). He was quick to meet people and make friends, curious about everyone and easy at making conversation. She believes that if there is a heaven, her Mom and Dad are together, hand-in-hand, exploring the far reaches of other worlds.

OMNIOLORE CALENDAR 2020

March	8 Daylight Saving Time Begins
	9 Best Sellers Book Group—12 noon-1 p.m., L8
	12 Board of Directors Meeting—12 Noon-1:30 p.m., L8 CANCELLED
	17 St. Patrick's Day
	18 Introducing Omnilore Meeting—10 a.m., L8 CANCELLED
	20 First Day of Spring
26 Computer Talk—12 Noon-1 p.m., L8 CANCELLED	
April	1 Coordinator Information Meeting—Summer 2020—10 a.m., L8 CANCELLED
	8 Passover Begins
	9 Board of Directors Meeting—12 Noon-1:30 p.m., L8 VIA ZOOM
	10 Walking Group—10 a.m. CANCELLED
	12 Easter
	13 Best Sellers Book Group—12 noon-1 p.m., L8 CANCELLED
	15 Input Deadline for May-June 2020 Newsletter
	16 Passover Ends
	22 Earth Day
	23 Computer Talk—12 noon-1 p.m., L9 CANCELLED
	29 S/D Questions & Presentation Workshop—10:00 a.m.-12 Noon, L8 CANCELLED (see article, page 9)
30 Spring Forum —11:30 a.m., Los Verdes Golf Course CANCELLED	
May	1 Summer Trimester Begins
June	30 Introducing Omnilore Meeting—1:30 p.m., L8
July	17 Introducing Omnilore Meeting—10 a.m., L8



2020 Forums
 Winter—January 31st
 Spring—April 30th
 Summer—July 31st
 Annual Mtg.—October 30th

IMPORTANT:
 Calendar changes and additions
 are scheduled with Sharon Bohner
Calendar@omnilore.org

Update on the Outreach Program

by Dale Korman, Outreach Coordinator

Join the Omnilore Outreach Team that will bring opportunities to Assisted Living Centers (i.e. – The Canterbury and Clearwater) for residents to learn about new topics and be able to participate in meaningful discussions.

Thank you to all those who have already presented.

If you are interested in joining this "feel good" activity by being involved in this project, contact Dale Korman: 310-373-2442 - daleakorman@gmail.com. I'll be waiting for your call!

Membership@Omnilore.org (inquiries about joining Omnilore, or referring friends)

Visit the Omnilore website at 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)