



# OMNIOLORE NEWS



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November 2020

### DON'T MISS – IN THIS ISSUE

<u>President's Message</u>	<u>Page 2</u>
<u>Profile: Michael Klineman</u>	<u>Page 3</u>
<u>Letters to the Editor</u>	<u>Page 4</u>
<u>Dean's Corner</u>	<u>Page 6</u>
<u>2020-2021 Membership Report</u>	<u>Page 6</u>
<u>Next Intro. Omnilore Meetings</u>	<u>Page 6</u>
<u>How Vaccines are Developed</u>	<u>Page 7</u>
<u>That's Entertainment</u>	<u>Page 8</u>
<u>Coordinator's Corner</u>	<u>Page 8</u>
<u>Omnilore Zoom Users Group</u>	<u>Page 9</u>
<u>Best Sellers SIG</u>	<u>Page 9</u>
<u>In Memoriam</u>	<u>Page 10</u>
<u>The Bookshelf</u>	<u>Page 11</u>
<u>Movie Critic Corner</u>	<u>Page 11</u>
<u>Calendar</u>	<u>Page 12</u>

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Elected Officers

President	Jim Slattery
VP - Academics	Frank Reiner
VP - Administration	Carolyn Pohlner
Treasurer	Mitch Blake
Recording Secretary	Linda Nakashima
Past President	Steve Miller
Member-at-Large	Mercedes Ortiz
Member-at-Large	Maureen Raynor
Member-at-Large	John Simpson

### Standing Committee Chairs

Membership	Carolyn Pohlner
Forum	Martin Ageson
Communications	Gloria Dumais
Curriculum	Ruth Hart
Evaluation	Carolyn Pohlner
	Frank Reiner
Technology	Rick Spillane
Head Coordinator	Claire Damecour

### Appointees

Registrar	Carolyn Pohlner
SDG Scheduling	Ruth & Hal Hart
Room Scheduling	Sharon Bohner
Laptop Administrator	Rick Spillane
Equipment	Hal Hart
Supplies	Ginny Brown
	Bonnie Sadrpour
Office Manager	Marie Gleerup
Member Advocate	Martin Ageson
Webmaster	Hal Hart

## Comedian Steve Bruner

### Got Us to Laugh at Omnilore's Annual Meeting

Omnilore once again has done an outstanding job putting together a virtual Annual Meeting Forum that included 64 in attendance.

President Miller opened the business meeting by recognizing special volunteers and the outgoing board members who have worked so hard during the past year keeping everything and everyone in our organization functioning within our new virtual reality. Specifically, during his two-year tenure as president nine folks have been Board members the entire 24 months and he especially wanted to thank them: **Don Tlougan, Jack Lyons, Jim Slattery, Rick Spillane, Carolyn Pohlner, Joann Bally, Bob Mallano, Judy Bayer**, and past president **Frank Pohlner**. In particular, President Miller lauded **Ross Coe, Hal Hart, Johan Smith** and many others who put together our virtual Forum meeting that went off without a flaw. **Bob Mallano** also was commended for his excellent choice for our entertainment, comedian **Steve Bruner**. What an outstanding job all have done and with the patience and the will to make it work.



Steve Bruner

As no further nominations for Omnilore Board members had been received, the vote was taken, and the slate was approved by acclamation. The minutes from last year's meeting along with the treasurer's report and the new budget also were approved.

Congratulations to Omnilore's new Board of Directors

- President: Jim Slattery**
- Vice President for Academics: Frank Reiner**
- Vice President for Administration: Carolyn Pohlner**
- Secretary: Linda Nakashima**
- Treasurer: Mitch Blake**
- Member at Large: Mercedes Ortiz**
- Maureen Raynor**
- John Simpson**

Steve Miller invited three committee chairs to give a report on the current status of their operations. **Carolyn Pohlner**, Membership Chair, announced that there currently were 252 active Omnilore members and 46 were on leave of absence. Interestingly, the total numbers for 2019 were identical. Fourteen people have joined during the current pandemic, and all six of those who participated in the last Information Session have signed up. Carolyn concluded by making a plea to all Omniloreans to talk about our organization with their friends and to encourage them to participate in the upcoming November 16<sup>th</sup> Information session.

*Continued on Page 2*

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	Judy Bayer
Staff Member	TBD

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Jim Slattery*



Being president of Omnilore was never in my game plan, but the organization has been such a positive aspect of my retirement that I felt obligated to give something back to a group that has provided me with access to so many interesting people, classes and friendships during the past 18 years. It was an honor to be asked to lead such a talented group.

My principal goals as president are: 1) 300 active members 2) Maintain our excellent working relationship with CSUDH Extended Education 3) Develop backup plans for key personnel and processes 4) Stay informed and work closely with CSUDH in any Beach Cities Health Districts Facility Redevelopment.

My thanks to Steve Miller for his guidance and to all those who have agreed to serve as board members or on committees. You have my special thanks. I am told new OMNIOLORE presidents are expected to introduce themselves so here is my story and I am sticking with it.

I was born in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, a small "Paper Mill" town on the Wisconsin River. Dairy farms, Cranberry "Marshes", forests of pulp wood, and large Irish and Slavic families are common. My father had five brothers and six sisters. He never finished high school and expected to be a farmer however, when he proposed to my mother, she said it's either me or the farm. A large cranberry operation became his "farm" and he went on to start a successful welding and structural steel business that put three children through college and enabled a comfortable retirement.

My mother left high school to help support her family through the Depression; however, she was a lifetime learner who made sure her children understood the value of education.

My education began in a one room rural school with one teacher and 15 students. There were two of us in the first grade. Mom learned to drive that year so she could chauffeur us to the closest parochial elementary school. We moved to town one year later, and Dad started a new career as a welder/machinist which led to the start of Slattery Welding where I learned to weld and was a summer employee during my college years.

During my senior year my mother and a high school algebra teacher convinced me to give college a try, and I enrolled at St. Norbert College outside Green Bay thinking maybe I could maybe see a Packer Game. Fr. Claridge, Chairman of the Physics Department, lived in a room at the end of our hall. He had worked at Los Alamos during the Manhattan Project and was often asked to lecture at UW in Madison. One day he told me, "If you want to be an engineer you are wasting your time here. Get yourself to Madison!" I had never been to Madison, but I thought he might be right and maybe I could see the Badgers play and make some money selling beer in the stands like I was doing at Packer Games!

Graduating from UW with a BS in Mechanical Engineering, I took a job with Chevron in San Francisco, drove across country with a friend and ended up at a Residence Club on Knob Hill where I commuted to work via cable car!

Single, 21 and living in San Francisco; it doesn't get much better. But I was asked if I wanted to go to Alaska for three months to support the installation of a gas injection plant we had designed. For someone who grew up hunting and fishing it was a no-brainer.

With the installation complete, I returned to San Francisco and after an afternoon in Berkley, I decided to apply to Graduate School. Tuition was free in those days and as a paid teaching assistant I made enough to earn a debt-free MS.

From Berkley, I took a job in the Space Biz and spent 37 years with the Aerospace Corporation in various technical and management positions, where our satellites grew from the size of a basketball to a greyhound bus.

On a personal note, my wife Berthe and I have been married for 55 years. We have three sons, two daughters-in-law, a granddaughter and three grandsons.

Berthe is a retired OB nurse from Quebec. I was amazed to learn my great-great Irish grandparents homesteaded a farm in Quebec before moving on to Wisconsin. Hope you can see why I believe in the Luck of the Irish!

*Continued from Page 1: Annual Meeting Report*

**Howard Korman**, Curriculum Committee Chair, explained that his group meets three times a year with the next meeting coming up in January. He encouraged all Omnilore members to come up with their own recommendation for an S/DG: "Read a good book, and go for it," he suggested. "A movie or Ted Talks is a source." The deadline for submitting a recommendation will be the last week of December, close to the 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Judy Bayer**, Communications Committee Chair, commented that under the current circumstances, the Omnilore News was the focal point of the committee. The publication is a means of communicating with the membership and keeping all apprised of the events, activities, and updates from Omnilore's president, CSUDH Dean, and others. Special sections include the Coordinator's Corner, study groups, Bookshelf, Book Club, Movie Critic Corner, Calendar, Outreach, and more. A new feature is the Letters to the Editor column with "hunker-down" stories from so many sharing their experiences during the pandemic with humor, poignancy, strength and inspiration.

Following the business meeting, **Bob Mallano**, Forum Chair, introduced our Speaker, comedian **Steve Bruner**. We were told he "looks like a perfectly normal guy . . . until he opens his mouth!" A testimonial: "Steve Bruner is like the mailman, he always delivers! His clean stand-up comedy generates laughter and fun for all ages." And, that he did. With many unmuted, the hearty laughter was spontaneous throughout the rest of the afternoon. Steve appeared through a special Zoom function from Wine Country and assured us that we didn't need to worry if we didn't laugh as he'd already received his check. He described himself as a smart aleck and a clean comic, though he thinks "cleanish" is more apropos. His one-liners continued without stop, and while leaving us a little breathless, we all welcomed the humor and lightheartedness to lift our spirits as we tread these uncharted waters.

## Omniole Profile: Michael Klineman

by Judy Bayer

Learning about Omniole from his neighbor and friend, Steve Miller, recent president of Omniole, and encouraged to try a class, how could Mike say no. He liked that the classes were noncredit and found it interesting that there was no teacher. The coordinator and co-coordinator were helpful in creating an organized study/discussion peer group defining expected responsibilities and duties.

A native of Harrison, New York in Westchester County, Mike attended the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and received a BS in business (management). He also participated in the MBA program there and subsequently earned an MS degree from USC in Counseling.

Initially, Mike worked in higher education and for almost 20 years was an Assistant Dean in the School of Business at USC. In 1997, he qualified for a very early retirement incentive and just a year later accepted a position as an adjunct professor at Santa Monica College, spending 18 and a half years in the Counseling Department advising and counseling international students. He also taught one-unit courses to new international students about the educational system in the United States.

In both schools, Mike was involved in the governance system. He was elected to the Staff Assembly at USC and served as both Vice-President and President for two years each. At Santa Monica College, he was elected to serve on the Academic Senate and Faculty Association Assembly.

Before moving to California in 1973, Mike taught elementary school for four years in Philadelphia where, because of a teacher shortage, the school system was hiring anyone with a college degree. Teaching qualified him for an occupational deferment from the draft and going to Vietnam. As he likes to say, "I would rather teach people than kill them!"

Mike enjoys Omniole classes more when they are in person rather than through Zoom, feeling more connected in a live classroom setting where he learns about his classmates and finds discussions more interesting and intellectually stimulating.

Some of his favorite classes have been Food: Then and Now, Basketball (probably one of his favorite sports), Documentary Movies and Elderhood.

Mike's traveling adventures throughout his life have been diverse, extensive and incredibly interesting. When he was growing up, he traveled to Florida and Dorado Beach, Puerto Rico, with his parents on vacations along with a Caribbean cruise when he was 12 years old.

When teaching elementary school, during the summers he would travel often to Europe without any specific itinerary, both solo and with friends.

After four years of teaching, Mike and his girlfriend at the time quit their teaching jobs and traveled to Europe and North Africa for more than three months, including traveling through all areas of Morocco – and all this in a VW van.

Mike and his wife Kathie were married in 1986. Together, they have traveled to Jamaica and the Virgin Islands. Mike and Kathie have three grown children: a son, Max who is 33, and



From left: Kathie, daughters Maddy and Alix, Michael and son Max

two daughters, Alix, 30, and Maddy, 26. After they started their family, Mike and Kathie participated in home exchanges for five summers. The exchanges were in Oxford, England, Marseille, the Loire Valley, a suburb of Paris, and the Netherlands, outside of Amsterdam. The exchanges were a wonderful way for the family to experience a culture from a perspective different from that of a typical tourist.

A highlight of the Klineman adventures was their trips each year to watch their older daughter, Alix, play professional indoor volleyball in Italy (three years) and Brazil (two years) beginning in 2011. She now plays beach volleyball and has participated in tournaments in Switzerland, Poland, China, Russia, Netherlands and the Czech Republic. They have watched her play in tournaments in Thailand, Netherlands, and Macau, China.

And this year, Alix and her partner are the number one team in the United States and would have participated in the Olympics this past summer if the games had not been postponed. Hopefully next summer, Mike and his family will travel to Tokyo to watch them play. This will be an amazing experience for all if it happens.

Mike surely should write a book about all of his travels. Just to mention a few more, Mike and his son journeyed to Havana, Cuba, recently and had an amazing experience. Mike and Kathie enjoyed a two-week tour of Israel in 2019 and added on an extension to Petra, Jordan, which, according to Mike, is one of the most amazing places on the planet and ranks with the pyramids in Egypt.

Not only has Mike found time to attend Omniole classes since his retirement, he also has served on the Board of the Retired Faculty Association and the Staff Retirement Association at USC.

Since 1984, Mike has been a member of an investment club at USC that discusses which stocks to buy with their monthly dues collected for that purpose.

A few things in life are very important to Mike, whether working or retired, and help assure his sense of well-being. They include the feeling of being productive, appreciated, and valued. As Mike says, "These can be earned in almost anything we do and can make our lives feel meaningful."





## Omnioleoreans Share Hunker-Down Stories

by Judy Bayer  
Omniole News Editor



Our call went out to you as the holidays approached to continue providing upbeat contributions to our Letters to the Editor section of the newsletter, and you answered. You have imparted your thoughtful, upbeat stories once more for all to enjoy. By doing so, you are giving our readers a bit of cheerfulness, a positive hug and gratitude for what we are able to enjoy during these difficult times. Enjoy.

### Rich Mansfield:

**H**unkering down for Jenia and me means spending a lot more time in our Cliff May tract home (which is kind of an oxymoron) reading, playing Rummikub, and binge-watching *Mad Men* and *Suits*. A lot of that is done with my sister Diana who is sequestered across the street in her own oxymoronic home but comes over for dinners. Jenia and I are of course retired, but my kid sister when not hunkering operates [Boneroom.com](http://Boneroom.com) from her warehouse just a mile down the road.

Jenia, the extroverted half of our half-century together, usually has a cell phone in one hand FaceTiming with a brother in Chile, a sister in Germany, or a dear friend in Scotland. In her other hand she has a landline and shares news with another sister who spends six months a year in Mar Vista, CA with her daughter, whom we sponsored thirty years back. When not on the phone, Jenia lunches with friends or attends a monthly “tea” with them.

For myself, I prefer sitting in bed, feet propped up, laptop lapped most of the time, with two cats catnapping on my legs. Twice monthly I virtually attend an Omnioleore class on Philosophy, still in bed.

To compensate for my life as a couch potato and laptopper I exercise for 20 minutes weekly at The Perfect Workout and have gained three pounds of muscle mass. I also bought an electronic piano six months ago and have been learning from a website called pianowithjonny. Once a week or so I fire up the pop-top van and spend a few hours parked at the Alamitos Bay Marina, reading, napping, and absorbing beauty. And Jenia and I recently drove north and spent a weekend at Camp San Luis Obispo, where I had done many two-week interludes as a reservist fifty years ago, with Jenia visiting on middle weekends via Greyhound.

Those were the days! But it’s a pretty good life now, too.



Pt. Mugu Naval Station,  
with Car Commercial Rock in the background.

With so many sporting events cancelled, they're having to televise the World Origami Championship...It's on Paperview.

Never in my whole life would I imagine my hands would consume more alcohol than my mouth!

Ladies...time to start dating the older dudes. They can get you into the grocery store early.

They say you can't fix stupid. Turns out you can't quarantine it, either.

It's like being 16 again. Gas is cheap and I'm grounded!

So can we expect car insurance to go down since nobody can go anywhere? Just wondering... Jake, from State Farm...

I can't believe I can walk into a store to buy weed, but I have to meet my hairdresser in a dark alley with unmarked bills to get a haircut!

I don't like the fact that my chances of survival seem to be linked to the common sense of others..

Cops these days will be like... "come out with your hands washed!"

*Continued on Page 5*

Continued from Page 4: **Letters to the Editor:**

**Kate Nelson:**

About three weeks ago my husband Jim left our house to pick up takeout for dinner. He stopped to get gas and noticed a small bag of trash on the passenger side, so he left the car (Oregon still has paid gas pumpers) and walked over to the convenience store trash containers. The first can was full, so he walked to the second. A young man, clearly an employee of the store, tapped him on the shoulder and said: "Sir, you're not allowed to take trash out of our containers." Jim, who possibly hadn't shaved that day, and might not have been wearing socks, said, "What?" The guy repeated what he had said, only louder and slower. Jim pointed out our Volvo sitting at the pump and said he was putting trash **into** the can. The guy apologized and said they were having lots of trouble with the homeless raiding their trash cans.

I told Jim he has **got** to dress better when he goes out during this pandemic.

*Kate and Jim Nelson on the porch of their newly built house in Eugene, OR. Kate zooms the Shakespeare class.*



**Claire Damecour:**

I have continued my journey across the United States, hitting the farthest west (Olympic national park) and East (Acadia national park) and south (Key West). Heading back, sort of, through Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, etc.

Temperatures were hot and humid in Florida but have cooled off considerably now.

Still trying to attend six S/DGs a month, coordinate SFI and co-coordinate BHV. I also teach ESL twice a week for 90 minutes and work in telehealth 19 hours a week. Keeping busy, no time to fret.



**Dale Korman:**

Here's one from my mother, Harriet Apsel, former Omnilorean. She says, "I'm locked down in my assisted living facility, yet I just received a jury summons. Rather surprised that they would want a 97 year old to serve on a jury during a pandemic that has a stay-at-home ruling for seniors."

Tomorrow I have to call in to have her excused, but according to a City Council member, she may need a doctor's excuse. This is ridiculous!



*Harriet Apsel*

**H.E. Kamiya:**

Only 3 trick or treaters. All those Snickers bars going to waste..... NOT.



**So many coronavirus jokes out there, it's a pandemic.**

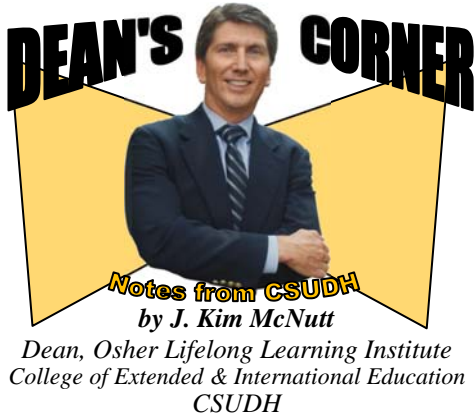
**What's the best way to avoid touching your face?  
A glass of wine in each hand.**

**At the store there was a Big X by the register for me to stand on . . . I've seen too many Road Runner cartoons to fall for that one.**

**What's the difference between COVID-19 and Romeo and Juliet? One's the coronavirus and the other is a Verona crisis.**







This column is written by guest columnist Associate Dean Lynda Wilson, PhD.

What a year 2020 has been! With COVID-19 and a Presidential Election like no other, many of us, if not all will be relieved when 2020 is in the rear-view mirror. The impact of COVID-19 has changed our normal way of life in so many ways including: sharing milestones with friends and family, holiday and vacation travel and shopping routines, just to name a few.

The virus also changed the university experience, and how we learn has changed too.

The quick pivot to alternate forms of education challenged administrators, faculty and students across this country. At CSUDH, the directive to vacate campus was swift and immediate. However, the College of Extended and International Education pivoted without much disruption to business as usual, the business of educating students, including OLLI and Omnilore.

The use of technology, and in particular the use of Zoom, has allowed learning to continue during the pandemic. Zoom, a novel technology prior to COVID-19, has become the norm for delivering education. It has taken a village to pivot so quickly. I am so proud of our staff for stepping up and playing critical roles in managing the change.

I'd like to spotlight **Arvin Lambinico**, our IT guru, who has been a rock star in assisting staff, instructors and students with the transition to a new mode of learning. Also, with being a self-support College, our doors have remained open, with limited staff on campus, throughout the last eight months. We created alternate work schedules in order to minimize the exposure of our staff to the virus. I am happy to report that our staff has stayed well throughout it.

We learned from the Chancellor's Office that Spring 2021 courses will still be delivered in a virtual setting, and will include OLLI and Omnilore courses. Summer 2021 course delivery still is up in the air. I appreciate your ability to pivot and adjust to the new normal.

Stay well and keep connecting virtually with our staff and your fellow learners.



Arvin Lambinico

## Omnilore 2020 -2021 Membership Report

by Registrar and Membership Chair, Carolyn Pohlner

Omnilore's Summer Registration Renewal campaign is officially over and believe it or not, we are exactly where we were last year at this time - **298** members strong! including our oldest "Young-at-Heart" member, 100 year-old Marvel Burke, who maintains her Leave of Absence status.

The full-time, active membership stands at **252**, including the six new Omniloreans who attended our most recent orientation session on October 14<sup>th</sup> and joined that same day! Although several of our long-standing members opted out from the remote learning format of Zoom, and joined the ranks of the "Leave of Absence" files, they all promise to return "in-person" to the classroom when the state and CSUDH deem it safe for us to do so.

Along with their renewal fees, **106** members returned the Membership Participation Form indicating specific areas where they wanted to volunteer and showcase their talents. This is a little more than one third of total members.

Head Coordinator, Claire Damecour, should be pleased to hear that the biggest and most important responses were from the **51** members who agreed to serve as Coordinators and Co-Coordinators. We even heard from one 'brand new' Omnilorean who has been a member for less than a year, who volunteered to serve in that role. Omnilore couldn't exist without all of YOU!

It also appears we have some amateur (and THREE former professional!) journalists among us, with **36** members offering to assist Judy Bayer with the Newsletter, writing articles, editing and proofreading them, too. We should be in store for some good reading material in the months to come!

The working "meat-and-potatoes" committee of Omnilore - the Curriculum Committee - may add some new members after Howard Korman considers the **26** members who want to participate in the curriculum selection process. They are responsible for researching and presenting the varied courses offered to the membership for voting.

The Membership Committee, headed by Carolyn Pohlner, has attracted **8** more volunteers to help potential guests who attend the orientation sessions to understand the requirements and benefits of Omnilore membership and assist them with completing their applications. These meetings have been held online since July, and we will employ this format for the foreseeable future. Our next "Introduction to Omnilore" sessions are scheduled for **Thursday, February 25, 2021** and **Monday March 8, 2021**. Be sure to spread the word among your friends and neighbors. Our organization continues to grow and thrive due to your advertising efforts.

**"Friends don't let friends stay home in isolation, they introduce them to Omnilore Zoom!"**

The  
Next  
Via  
Zoom

**INTRODUCING OMNIOLORE MEETINGS:**  
**Thursday, Feb. 25th - 10 a.m.**  
**Monday, March 8th - 1:30 p.m.**  
**Help Spread the Word! RSVP 310-370-2494**



**VACCINES are Difficult to Make**

Adapted from Dr. Sanjay Gupta's Report on CNN  
by Joy Jurena

The average time to make a vaccine is 8 years. Some viruses have no vaccine. Moderna and Pfizer have made a vaccine in 8 months. There are 100 different vaccines in the works.

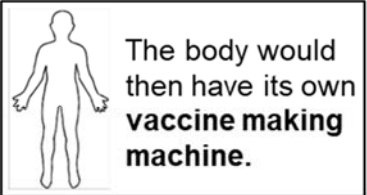
**How vaccines work now**



Give a person a little piece of the live virus – an **antigen (ID of pathogen)** - but not enough to make them sick.

The **antigen is what tells** immune system cells to make **Antibodies** – the proteins that neutralize the virus if it ever tries to invade again. **That's what makes you immune.**

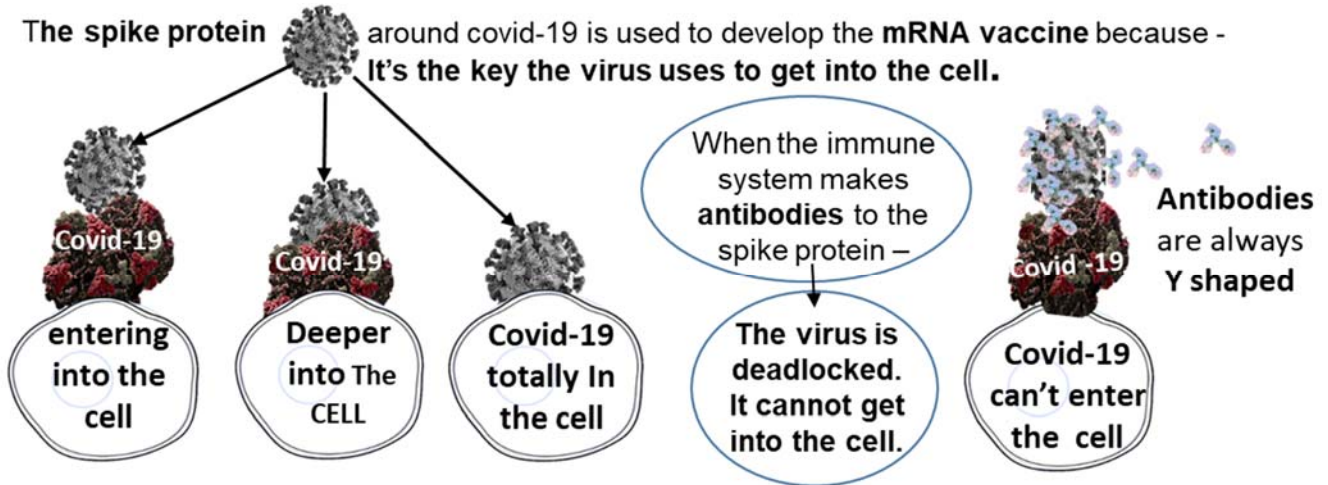
**WHAT IF the body could be taught to do the whole thing?**  
**NOT just to make antibodies but to make antigens as well.**



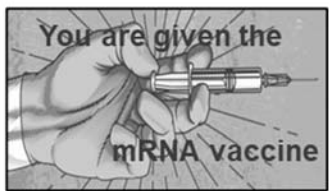
**VACCINE: Code in a Computer – Not medicine in a Lab**

In 2000, Dr. Drew Weissman started concentrating on a tiny random genetic material that our cells make all the time know as **mRNA – messenger RibosomeNucleicAcid.** It instructs the cells to make whatever protein you want. Once you have the sequence of the protein you want, it's one step to making the **RNA.** **The process can be used for most vaccines.**

The spike protein around covid-19 is used to develop the **mRNA vaccine** because - **It's the key the virus uses to get into the cell.**

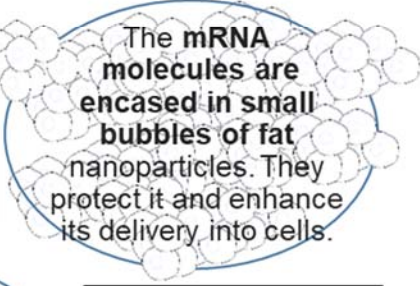


**The Future of Vaccines? Maybe the End to Pandemics?**

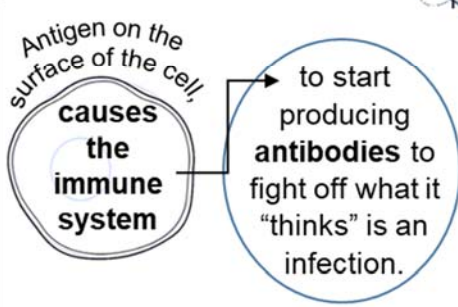


It gives the cells **instructions** on how to make a **piece of the "spike protein."**

It is only a piece of the protein and **does not do harm to the vaccinated person.** It is **antigenic.**



**In days** after the vaccine, your cells start making the piece of the spike protein throughout your body.  
**Then the cell breaks down the mRNA strand** and disposes of them using enzymes in the cell..



These antibodies are specific to the **SARS-CoV-2 virus**, which means the immune system is primed to **protect against future infection.**



**T**all, dark, Scottish-born star was Sean Connery who created the memorable role of James Bond, even though Ian Fleming didn't think he was the best choice, wanting a more cerebral and brutal Bond. However, when the movie opened with Connery and the audiences became loyal fans, bringing in substantial revenue, he became thrilled by this success, not to mention the booming sales of his books. Box office sales for *Dr. No* in 1963 escalated to 19 million tickets and by today's standards amounts to \$477 million - a solid hit. Consequently, like eating pretzels, fans couldn't get enough. Audiences were hooked on 007 with *From Russia With Love*, *Goldfinger*, *Thunderball*, *You Only Live Twice*, *Diamonds Are Forever*, and *Never Say Never*. How many of you saw every one of these? We did!

But, did you know that Connery was considered to be Captain Von Trapp in *The Sound of Music*? Later, in the 80s, he won an Oscar for *The Untouchables*, although he always felt he could have won in 1975 for John Huston's *The Man Who Would Be King*. From his movie beginnings in 1954 with *Lilacs in the Spring* through his famous role as the father of Indiana Jones in *The Last Crusade*, and many more, for all his marvelous performances and versatility, critics feel that he was the perfect James Bond - whether Sean Connery liked the fact or not. We will all miss his sexy smile, twinkling eyes and will always remember how he said his name..... "Bond.....James Bond!" **RIP**

**Dale Korman Presents  
Tribute to  
Sean Connery  
1930-2020**



**T**emperatures may be dropping but things are heating up here at the coordinators corner. The recruiting committee worked hard to find coordinators and co-coordinators for all the S/DGs in the Spring 2021 semester. Thank you to all who have volunteered to help out. Omnilore could not exist without your help.

The coordinators' information meeting was held and the coordinators' debriefing meeting as well. We had a good turn out at both meetings. Several points were made that I would like to share with you. Make sure the members of your S/DG know to be respectful of their

fellow Omnilore members. Encourage them to not get into arguments or shouting matches. Ask your presenters to send you their presentations a week ahead so that, should they struggle to share on Zoom, you or your Zoom techie can jump in and help out. Encourage the members to be respectful of those who have worked hard on their presentations, show up to the meetings, arrive on time, don't leave early. Obviously this is a courtesy and not an edict. Also, make sure everyone has a chance to contribute to the discussion. Set some ground rules at the first meeting. If someone is monopolizing the time, have an independent member use a timer to limit everyone to 5 or 7 minute discussions. Encourage members to raise a hand when they want to speak.

If you have a difficult member in your S/DG and you need some advice, Martin Ageson has volunteered to take on the role of member advocate. He can help iron out any difficulties.

Any questions or issues, don't hesitate to contact me!

[clairedamecour@yahoo.com](mailto:clairedamecour@yahoo.com)



*Claire Damecour  
Head Coordinator*



**Meet Omnilore's Newest User Group:  
Omnilore Zoom Users Group (OZUG)**

*by Elyse Gura*

**O**mnilore Zoom Users Group (OZUG) is a newly formed group which recognizes that Zoom has kept us together and learning when physical classrooms were closed AND that by enabling “hybrid” classrooms of in-person and remote participants, Zoom will continue to be important to Omnilore when those classrooms are open again.

OZUG contains people who participate in Zoom-support, technology, techie and coordinator roles. OZUG doesn't duplicate the service provided by those groups, but leverages interested people in those groups to achieve these goals:

1. Accelerate identification of solutions to Zoom issues from the Omnilore community and communication of those solutions to the membership.
2. Develop & share tips and techniques for enhancing the S/DG-on-Zoom experience, making participating and presenting fun, easy and “stressless” (well, at least stress-reduced!)
3. Obtain input from OZUG members on Zoom settings for meetings.
4. Obtain input from OZUG members on effective techniques for managing Zoom meetings.

Watch for Wisdom from OZUG Zoom tips in the January/February 2021 Newsletter.

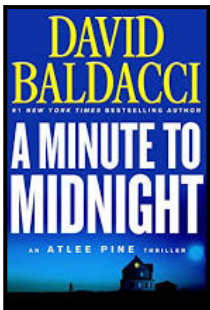
**Collecting Books for  
The Canterbury**

Dale Korman has looked into the possibility of collecting books donated by Omnilorans from their past classes to give to residents of The Canterbury. Because with the current lock-down situation for all assisted living facilities, doing a presentation in person currently is “on hold,” donating books from past classes for residents may provide a positive alternative. Unfortunately, at the present time, management at The Canterbury is holding off on accepting all donations. However, at Omnilore, we may initiate collecting books from members with the request that they be enclosed in a large box and stored somewhere until donations are accepted at The Canterbury.

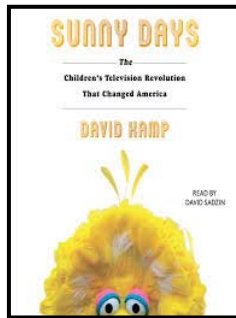
**Late Fall Best Sellers SIG Reads**

*by Patricia Edie & Cindy Eggert*

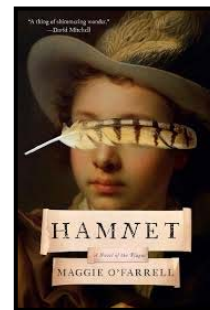
Calling all “Readers!” The Omnilore Best Sellers SIG rises to the challenge by transitioning to a virtual Zoom Book Group session, held at 12 noon on the second Monday of the month. The link to give you access to the session will be included in the reminder emails sent prior to each session. Here are the upcoming books.



Monday,  
December 14:  
Fiction  
*A Minute to  
Midnight*  
by  
David  
Baldacci



Monday,  
January 11:  
Non-Fiction  
*Sunny Days: The  
Children's Television  
Revolution  
That . . .*  
by David Kamp



Monday,  
February 8:  
Fiction  
*Hamnet*  
by  
Maggie  
O'Farrell

**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.**

**zoomzoomzoomzoomzoomzoomzoom**

**Zoom Reminders: Etiquette**

*by Gloria Dumais*

Since we are all into the third or 2 ½ terms of Zoom S/DGs I think we need a few reminders about our behavior on Zoom.

- ✓ If you come in late or leave early, please excuse yourself and/or remind the coordinator of your intentions in this regard.
- ✓ If you feel the need to eat and cannot do it before or after your meeting, definitely mute and take yourself off video. It is not pleasant to see someone chewing away and especially making the noise at the same time. Drinking is ok without slurping.
- ✓ Mute yourself unless you want to speak; sometimes we forget that everyone can hear what is going on in your surroundings.
- ✓ Make sure the camera is on you and not the floor or the ceiling; take a look at yourself.
- ✓ Most importantly is the showing of hands. Please put your hand up when you want to speak. This seems to be one of the biggest problems in our meetings.

Hope this helps make your experience with Zoom more enjoyable.

## In Memoriam

### Marianne Nelson

**M**arianne Louise Nelson, a 25-year resident of the South Bay, died at Hoag Memorial Hospital in Newport Beach, on Saturday, November 7, 2020. She was diagnosed with a rare blood disorder related to the autoimmune disease she had lived with and managed well for decades only days before her death, and in spite of aggressive treatment, she did not survive. She was 75 years old.

Marianne was born on July 23, 1945, in Chicago, Illinois, the third surviving child born to parents Harry and Mary (nee McIntyre) Anderson. She attended Chicago Public Schools, and graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota with a major in Elementary Education and English in 1967.

She and Dean Wesley Nelson were married on August 19, 1967. She taught fourth grade in public schools in St. Paul, Minnesota and in Kenwood, California, and first grade in a public school in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She earned her Masters' degree from the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee while teaching fulltime. From 1996 - 2014 she taught fourth grade at First Lutheran School in Torrance. In her 32 years of teaching, she touched the lives of over a thousand students and their families.

Marianne loved teaching children and learning new things with them. She was an avid reader and life-long learner. She was an active member of First Lutheran Church in Torrance, where she served as a lector, and participated in the book club, women's Bible study, and bell choir. For the past two years she was enrolled in continuing education classes with Omnilore. She was a woman of faith, an advocate for justice, and a gracious human being. She loved to laugh, dance, travel, visit art museums, listen to jazz, watch Hallmark movies, walk in the surf at the beach, and enjoy her daily scoop of vanilla (only vanilla!) ice cream. Her smile lit up the room.

She is survived by her husband Dean, former pastor at First Lutheran Church in Torrance, and Bishop Emeritus of the Southwest California Synod, ELCA of San Pedro; daughter Kirsten; son Mark; and two grandchildren, Henry and Lena. A Memorial Service celebrating her life will take place at First Lutheran Church in Torrance next year when it is safe for larger groups to gather. Her ashes will be scattered in the ocean she so greatly enjoyed and dearly loved sometime afterwards.



### Vera Pashky



**V**era Pashky was born in Los Angeles in 1950 to parents Alexander and Efrosenia Pashky. Vera's family immigrated from Russia and settled in Highland Park, where she grew up with loving family and friends.

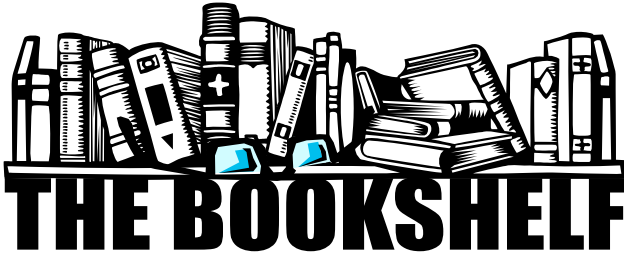
Vera graduated with honors from Franklin High School where she enjoyed distinctions such as being student body Vice-President, Homecoming Princess, and Prom Queen. Vera received her Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from UCLA in 1972 and her Masters from Cal State Northridge. She worked for over thirty years in Special Education for Los Angeles County as a Transition Specialist, mainly with the deaf and hard of hearing, placing high school students in work-experience roles to develop life-long skills. The lasting effect of her work throughout the community is immeasurable.

Vera was a long-time resident of Rancho Palos Verdes. She married her soul-mate Paul Rosenberg in 1986, in the backyard of the home they bought together. Vera was fluent in English, Russian, and Sign Language. She was an avid reader and travelled extensively, exploring new places near and far. She loved learning, art, music, gardening, plants and nature, and experiencing life as fully as possible.

She enjoyed taking Omnilore classes from 2012 until she became ill in 2018, on topics such as history, biography, religion, music, and philosophy. She was a member of the Palos Verdes Peninsula branch of the American Association of University Women and was active with the Tech Trek committee, helping to select eighth-grade girls for a week at a STEM camp on a university campus.

Vera is survived by her two sons, Aaron and Michael. She is deeply loved by many and will be greatly missed. She would have turned 70 this month. Vera was interred at Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills. Her outdoor service was well attended and was held in an appropriate setting.





**Go Like Hell: Ford, Ferrari, and Their Battle for Speed and Glory at Le Mans** by **A. J. Baime**. The epic story also told in the film **FORD V. FERRARI**: By the early 1960s, the Ford Motor Company, built to bring automobile transportation to the masses, was falling behind. Young Henry Ford II, who had taken the reins of his grandfather's company with little business experience to speak of, knew he had to do something to shake things up. Baby boomers were taking to the road in droves, looking for speed not safety, style not comfort. Meanwhile, Enzo Ferrari, whose cars epitomized style, lorded it over the European racing scene. He crafted beautiful sports cars, "science fiction on wheels," but was also called "the Assassin" because so many drivers perished while racing them.

*Go Like Hell* tells the remarkable story of how Henry Ford II, with the help of a young visionary named Lee Iacocca and a former racing champion turned engineer,

Carroll Shelby, concocted a scheme to reinvent the Ford company. They would enter the high-stakes world of European car racing, where an adventurous few threw safety and sanity to the wind. They would design, build,

and race a car that could beat Ferrari at his own game at the most prestigious and brutal race in the world, something no American car had ever done. Ken Miles' part is told without the emotion and drama of the movie. As an amateur race driver, I can say the book is more accurate as well.

**And Then There Were None**, by **Agatha Christie**. After being invited to a private island, 10 strangers are trapped with no way to leave. They soon discover that they do not know who invited them or why. As the reader finds out that the guests are not of the highest moral caliber you can wonder if they deserve to die or not. This book has a well-developed plot with many twists. It has been adapted to screen & revised several times since publication in 1939. If you have never read *And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie or if it has been a long time since reading it, you might give it a go.

**The Storm Before the Calm**, by **George Friedman**. George Friedman has been predicting the future for government and business clients for decades as StratFor. His latest book, published this year, says that this decade will see the confluence of two large-scale cycles, the institutional and the socioeconomic, right around 2025. These will be, as the Chinese saying has it, interesting times.

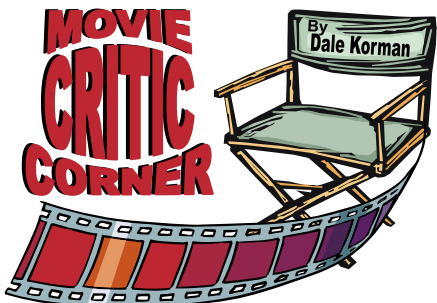
Instead of taking sides for or against Trump (for example), he says that presidents face two legislatures, countless federal judges, and 50 sovereign states, not to mention corporate lobbyists, fractured parties, and a pandemic. Although he focuses the attention of the nation, he can rarely achieve anything, and that is the effect the founders intended.

But they also built in resilience, making the U.S. "anti-fragile" and likely to come out the other side stronger than ever. So, if you're worn out with hype and divisiveness, this might be just what you need!

**Discourses and Selected Writings by Epictetus**; Translation by **Robert Dobbin**. Despite being born into slavery, Epictetus became one of the most influential thinkers of his time. *Discourses and Selected Writings* is a transcribed collection of informal lectures given by the philosopher around AD 108. A gateway into the life and mind of a great intellectual, Epictetus taught that philosophy is a way of life and not just a theoretical discipline. To Epictetus, all external events are determined by fate, and are thus beyond our control; we should accept whatever happens calmly and dispassionately. However, individuals are responsible for their own actions, which they can examine and control through rigorous self-discipline. Not a bad philosophy for dealing with Covid, Politics, or Life in general and producing inner tranquility.

*Book suggestions from Omnioleors make this column work. Thanks to Dan Stern, Vickie Volchok and Rich Mansfield for contributing to this issue's list. Send submittals to:*

[newsletter@omnilore.org](mailto:newsletter@omnilore.org)



### South Bay Film Society Film Virtual Showings

*No Time to Die*, starring Daniel Craig as Bond, Ray Fienas as M, and Rami Malek as villain-Safin, begins when Bond has left active service and is enjoying a tranquil life in Jamaica. But, his peace is short-lived when his old friend, Felix Leiter, from the CIA, turns up asking for help.

The mission to rescue a kidnapped scientist turns out to be far more treacherous than expected, leading onto the trial of a mysterious villain armed with dangerous new technology. This film was supposed to have been released in November, but

it could be an April, 2021 premiere. This is a classic Bond that delivers action, delightful puns and where the women don't pull any punches.

Spoil Alert of quotes:

Safin: "James Bond... I could be speaking to my own reflection. Only your skills will die with your body, while mine will survive long after I'm gone."

Bond: "History isn't kind to men who play God."

From this dialogue, many ask the question – "Will Bond die in this film?" We may have to wait months to find out the answer. Time will tell. Perhaps the Movie Goers SIG might be able to go to the theater by then to find out.



November	3	Election Day
	9	Best Sellers Book Group—12 noon-1 p.m., via Zoom
	11	Veterans Day
	12	Board of Directors Meeting—12 Noon-1:30 p.m., via Zoom
	26	Thanksgiving
	27	Coordinator Information Meeting—10 a.m.
December	10	Board of Directors Meeting—12 Noon-1:30 p.m., via Zoom
	11	Fall 2020 Coordinator Debriefing—10 a.m., via Zoom
	11	Hanukkah (first day)
	14	Best Sellers Book Group—12 noon-1 p.m. via Zoom
	15	Input Deadline for January-February 2021 Newsletter
	25	Christmas Day
January	4	Spring 2021 Trimester Starts

## OMNILORE CALENDAR 2020

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**2021 Forums**  
 Winter—January 29th  
 Spring—April 30th  
 Summer—July 30th  
 Annual Mtg.—October 29th

### IMPORTANT:

Calendar changes and additions  
 are scheduled with Sharon Bohner  
[Calendar@omnilore.org](mailto:Calendar@omnilore.org)



## Update on the Outreach Program

Happily to say, the Outreach Team thanks **Ginny Brown** for Zooming her presentation, “The Rocket”, a short story written by Ray Bradbury, to the residents of The Canterbury. It is our hope that more Omniloreans will volunteer to be involved in this feel good activity. All topics are welcomed. The residents are eager to learn and love to participate in discussions. If you are interested, please contact Dale Korman.

Hope to hear from many of you soon!

**Dale Korman: 310-373-2442**

[howarddale@verizon.net](mailto:howarddale@verizon.net)



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

**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 SDG 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)