



OMNILORE NEWS

Volume 7 Issue 1

January 1998

OMNILORE NEWS

A publication of OMNILORE, a Learning in Retirement Organization affiliated with The Division of Extended Education of California State University Dominguez Hills

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OmniLore News is published six times annually. We welcome short feature articles and news stories. Contact any of the staff members with your contributions.

Staff Members	Ginger Engstrom
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PENINSULA LAND USE TO BE TOPIC OF COLLOQUIUM



"The Politics of Land: The Evolution of the Land Preservation Movement on the Palos Verdes Peninsula" will be the topic of a colloquium to be presented next month by Dr. William Ailor, founder and president of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy. The colloquium will be held Wednesday, February 18 at 10 a.m. at the Peninsula Center Library, 650 Deep Valley Drive, Palos Verdes. Dr., Ailor's talk will focus on how residents have used various techniques to preserve open space on the peninsula. He will discuss the current status of land development and speculate on the possible future of remaining open land. A resident of the peninsula since 1974, Dr. Ailor is director of the Center for Orbital and Reentry Debris Studies at The Aerospace Corporation in El Segundo. In addition to founding the conservancy 10 years ago, Dr. Ailor has served as a Rolling Hills Estates planning commissioner, and is on the board of the Peninsula Symphony Association. He received the Palos Verdes Peninsula Audubon Society's Conservation Award in 1990, Aerospace Corporation's Volunteer of the Year award in 1994, and the Community Association of the Peninsula's Community Appreciation Award in 1997 for "outstanding contributions and service to the Palos Verdes Peninsula community."

PERSONS PLANNING TO ATTEND ARE ASKED TO CALL PATRICIA MORRIS AT 541-8378, DEADLINE ON RESERVATIONS IS FEBRUARY 11. Admission is free.

Suggested readings include:

- * "A Driving Tour of the Palos Verdes Peninsula" by Barbara Dye
- * "Palos Verdes Peninsula: Time and the Terraced Land" by Augusta Fink
- * "The Handbook of Wildflowers, Weeds, Wildlife, and Weather of the South Bay and Palos Verdes Peninsula" by Donald Moore Gales
- * "The Rancho Palos Verdes General Plan and Coastal Specific Plan."

A question and answer session will follow the talk.



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MEMBERSHIP PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

As we all know, **Omnilore** is a member driven organization. Its sole purpose is to enrich the lives of its members. Sometimes when we are attending a session or doing our core reading or preparing a presentation, we forget that substantial other work is needed to make this all possible. There are a myriad of tasks behind each class and event that require someone's effort.

The key to keeping **Omnilore** relevant and successful is active participation by all its members. Our organization will only be as good as all of us together make it. It is critical that all **Omnilore** members take on at least one task within an academic year. At the end of this newsletter is a questionnaire that will help us learn more about your interests and talents and find out how you would like to help **Omnilore**. Please take a few minutes and fill it out and return to **Omnilore CSUDH, P. O. Box 7000-236, Redondo Beach, Ca. 90277.**

Omnilore Needs You

Our organization will only be as good as all of us together make it. It is critical that all **Omnilore** members take on at least one task within an academic year. At the end of this newsletter is a questionnaire that will help us learn more about your interests and talents and find out how you would like to help **Omnilore**. Please take a few minutes and fill it out and return to **Omnilore CSUDH, P. O. Box 7000-236, Redondo Beach, Ca. 90277.**

WHERE DO WE COME FROM?

Have you ever wondered where **OMNIOLOREANS** come from? President Burt Cutler recently found himself thinking about all the communities represented in our organization and decided to check it out. According to the Fall '97 roster here's how we break down.

- * P.V. Peninsula including San Pedro 45%
- * Beach Cities:
 - El Segundo to Redondo Beach 30%
- * Torrance 17%
- * Surrounding Areas
 - Culver City to Los Angeles to Long Beach) 8%

The Board is making a concentrated effort to enlist new members from all of these areas as well as members with African American, Hispanic and Asian backgrounds. Can you interest anyone?

MORE QUESTIONNAIRES COMING

In addition to the volunteer questionnaire attached to this newsletter, you will be receiving two additional questionnaires in the near future.

What do you think?

Omnilore made a number of rule changes last year with respect to acceptable curriculum topics, the format of classes and the size of **Omnilore**. We would like your opinion of these changes. In addition, **Omnilore** needs to more clearly define its mission and modus operandi. This questionnaire will present you with a number of referenda complete with pro and con arguments. Please read them all carefully and tell us what you think.

The results of this questionnaire will serve as guidance to the Board as we attempt to more clearly define who and what we are. They will also assist the Board in a review and possible modification of the recent rule changes and to determine possible new operating guidelines for acceptable topic suggestions.

Who are we?

The next questionnaire will ask a series of fun questions about your prior lives, current interests as well as other miscellaneous interesting facts. Who knows; we may have an opera diva, a Rhodes scholar or an Olympic Athlete in our midst. Using this information we hope to develop some interesting and fun profiles of a typical or atypical **Omnilore** member. We will publish the results of this information throughout the year in the newsletter. And of course everything on this questionnaire is optional and anonymous.

Watch Your Mail & Tell Us

Who You Are & What You Think

PRESENTER TRAINING SET FOR JANUARY 16TH



Do you get sweaty palms and butterflies in your stomach before a presentation. Whether you are a new member wondering how to approach your first presentation or an old timer looking for some tips to make your presentations more stimulating and informative, this first ever "Presenter Training Class" will help. The class will include tips on researching a topic, developing your presentation, delivering your talk and ways to stimulate discussion. The class will be held on Friday January 16th at 11:00a.m. in Class Room 7. If you have any questions about this class, please call Elyse Boozer at (310) 559-9589.

The results of this questionnaire will serve as guidance to the Board as we attempt to more clearly define who and what we are. They will also assist the Board in a review and possible modification of the recent rule changes and to determine possible new operating guidelines for acceptable topic suggestions.



A TYPICAL OMNIOLORE MEMBER

My body may age,
but my mind will stay young.
I've much left to do,
many songs to be sung,
Many roads to be traveled,
much love to express,
Many souls that need aid,
who are now in distress.
I will do what I can
to help brighten your day,
I will spread cheer and love
as I pass by your way.
The world is my oyster,
to have and to hold,
Why, I'm really too busy
to ever grow old.

Anonymous

DAY TRIP TO TOUR BRAILLE INSTITUTE AND GUIDE DOGS OF AMERICA

HOT TOPICS

Omnilore will sponsor a day trip to the Braille Institute and Guide Dogs of America Wednesday April 15. Reservation deadline is March 1. Cost — including bus fare, lunch, and a tour of the two facilities—is \$31. Checks must accompany reservations.

The bus will depart from the peninsula parking lot opposite the Norris Theater at 8:30 a.m. and return at 5 p.m. Members are asked to assemble at 8:15 a.m. and park at the intersection of Crossfield Drive and Indian Peak Road along the perimeter of the parking lot.

Upon arrival at the Braille Institute the group will take a one and one-half hour guided tour of the complex which is committed to assisting people who are legally blind or visually impaired to learn to live with integrity in a world designed for sighted people.

Participants will receive lunch vouchers for Furr's Cafeteria in North Hollywood. The deluxe buffet features an assortment of salads, hot entrees, side dishes, dessert, and beverage.

Following lunch the group will take a two-hour guided tour of the Guide Dogs of America Institute where dogs are trained to assist the sight impaired.

Persons planning to attend are asked to mail the reservation form on page 5 with \$31 to Patricia Morris, 5700 Ravenspur Drive, #202, Rancho Palos Verdes CA 90275. Checks should be made payable to Friends of Omnilore.

Newly appointed Hot Topics coordinator Mary O'Neill has announced that Hot Topics will continue to be offered on the third Thursday of each month from noon to 2 p.m. Interested persons are invited to bring a sack lunch to the classroom and join in a rousing bull session on the "hot topic" of the month.

No preparation is necessary other than an interest in the topic.

Discussion topic for the January 15th session will be the English Only Initiative. On February 19 the discussion topic will be "Should We Leave Bosnia?"

Persons with ideas for future topics are invited to call Mary O'Neill at (310) 539-0415.

SPRING SEMESTER TO START WEEK OF JANUARY 5

Spring semester study/discussion groups will get under way the week of January 5. Fourteen classes will be offered this semester, concluding the last week of April. Courses will include:

SUBJECT	TIME	COORDINATORS
Drama of the American Jewish Experience - Part II	2nd & 4th Monday Afternoon	Ronnie Saunders & Etta Tourkin
The Ancient World	1st & 3rd Thursday Afternoon	Neale Lehman & Ed Rea
Architecture: Its Meaning and Evolution - Part II	2nd & 4th Wednesday Morning	Regina Collins & John Taber
Down-to-Earth Astronomy	1st & 3rd Monday Afternoon	Emil Raulin & Sunny Golombek
Study and Discussion of Creative Writing	1st & 3rd Wednesday Morning	Merle Culbert & Myrna Browning
Generals of World War II	2nd & 4th Tuesday Afternoon	Mary O'Neill & Elyse Boozer
The Education of Henry Adams	1st & 3rd Thursday Morning	Peggy Houghton
California Impressionists	1st & 3rd Monday Afternoon	Leonard Williams & Cecilia Carroll
The Mediterranean Sea	2nd & 4th Wednesday Afternoon	Mary Pinoniemi & P. Theberge
A Study of Baroque Music	2nd & 4th Thursday Afternoon	Ellen Bradford & Sunny Golombek
Opposing the System	2nd & 4th Thursday Morning	Alfred Bernstein & Peggy Houghton
French Philosophical Thought	1st & 3rd Wednesday Afternoon	Jack Laughlin & Michael Scordan
Current Issues of American Foreign Policy	2nd & 4th Monday Afternoon	James O'Neill & Walter Skiba

OmnioLore Profiles - Warren Pietro

A fireman? An aerospace engineer? Or a physics teacher? Which do you think describes Warren Pietro's career? If you answered yes to any of them, you are correct. And if you answered "all of the above," go to the head of the class. Because before his retirement in 1990 Warren carved out a niche for himself in each of those fields.

Born in New York City in 1926, Warren moved with his parents to Gardena at the age of nine. After graduating from Washington High School in Los Angeles in 1945 he entered the Army Air Corps. Upon receiving his military discharge he attended Los Angeles City College and took a job with the Los Angeles City Fire Department. He attained the rank of Captain before retiring after being injured on the job.

Before embarking on his second career, he returned to college, receiving his bachelors degree in mathematics at Long Beach State College, where he did graduate work in mathematics and physics.

While still in graduate school he accepted a position with Aerospace Corporation in configuration management, a branch of engineering, and worked on the manned orbiting laboratory program.

When the program was canceled in 1968 he took a position as a physics teacher for Palos Verdes Unified School District, where he remained until his retirement in 1985. While teaching physics days during the school year, he spent his summers and evenings teaching at several junior colleges.

Upon his retirement, Warren bought a 1000 acre cattle ranch, which he operated for seven years.

Looking for a retirement pastime, Warren enrolled at Loyola Law School for a year and a half. When he decided he didn't want to get into the law profession, he trained as a customs officer for the Treasury Department and spent the better part of a year working as a customs officer in San Ysidro.

In 1993 he was appointed to the Los

Angeles County Grand Jury. During his year with the grand jury he handled the Heidi Fleiss case, the Snoop Doggy Dog case, and briefly considered testimony in the O.J. Simpson proposed indictment.

While on the grand jury he was chairman of the grand jury's education committee, investigating such matters as bilingual education.

Father of three children, two grandchildren, and two great grandchildren, Warren's hobbies range from singing in the Torrance Civic Chorale to mountain climbing. He has sailed a small boat from San Pedro to Hawaii and has scaled Mt. Whitney.

A member of OmnioLore for five years, Warren served as coordinator last year on "The Flight From Rational Thought to the Irrational" which dealt with Carl Sagan's last book; "The Demon Haunted World."

REMINDER

Before leaving classrooms, please remember to:

- ⇒ Put away coffee pot and fixings
- ⇒ Shut off all lights
- ⇒ Close all window
- ⇒ Lock Doors

Editors' Note:

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

Humor Corner

WHY THEY LOVE US!

This was the transcript of an actual radio conversation between a US naval ship and Canadian authorities off the coast of Newfoundland.

AMERICANS: Please divert your course 15 degrees to the North to avoid a collision.

CANADIANS: Recommend you divert YOUR course 15 degrees to the South to avoid a collision.

AMERICANS: This is the captain of a US Navy ship. I say again, divert YOUR course.

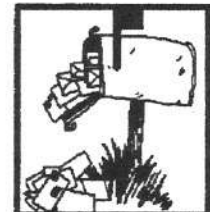
CANADIANS: No, I say again, divert YOUR course.

AMERICANS: THIS IS THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS ENTERPRISE; WE ARE A LARGE WARSHIP OF THE US NAVY. DIVERT YOUR COURSE NOW!

CANADIANS: This is a small Canadian lighthouse. Your call.

OmnioLore News

Comments and input can be sent to



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CSUDH**

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