



OMNILORE NEWS

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OMNILORE NEWS

A publication of The OMNILORE Society, 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
Ronnie Saunders

PRESIDENTS REPORT: UPDATE ON SPREADING THE WORK LOAD

The President's report in the March Newsletter stated that my goal this year is to formalize how we operate and to spread the work load among a broader set of members. At this point in time we have nearly completed defining tasks that need to be done routinely and identifying positions for their accomplishment. As might be expected, most positions are filled for the current year. There are however, **three position for which we are seeking managers.** The positions and activities involved are:

Social Director: Plan and supervise the annual meeting and other social events such as luncheons, teas and the theater parties to which all members are invited. The purpose of these events is to build camaraderie and encourage contact between members who never share the same discussion groups. The office-holder should form a committee to distribute the work load.

Computer Manager: Manage the Macintosh computer we possess, contract maintenance when needed, install new software, create security procedures to protect our hardware, programs and data files, maintain a store of computer supplies. Set up training classes on the computer's use.

Membership Committee Chair: Lead a committee that handles registration, maintain a roster of members, conduct recruiting efforts, respond to requests from prospective new members, welcome new members, provide encouragement and support to members having health problems or other personal difficulties. This person is a member of the board of directors.

other personal difficulties. This person is a member of the board of directors.

In the event that two persons wish to share a task, they are invited to serve as co-chairpersons. If you are interested in applying for one of the three immediate vacancies, please contact me at 831-4768.

As I stated in my March report, **OmniLore** is a member driven organization. In order to reap the rewards of participation in study-discussion groups or other **OmniLore** activities, substantial work is needed to make the fun part possible.

The entire list of positions and their associated tasks will be available soon. Several of the positions will be filled by the elections at the annual meeting held in October. Other will be filled by appointment from the list of people volunteering. It is your board's desire that all **OmniLore** members take on at least one of these positions each academic year. When the list is posted, start thinking of how you would like to contribute during the coming year. Remember that early volunteers are more likely to find their choice available than later volunteers.

John E. Taber





OUR READERS TELL US

Calling All Bibliophiles.

Avid reader Peggy Houghton has informed us that **BOOKSTAR**, which has two stores in Torrance, offers discussions on various topics and has readings by authors. A notebook containing discussion dates and other events is available in the store. Persons who participate receive a 30% discount in any book the group as a whole decides to read. For further information, call your local **BOOKSTAR**.

Don't Forget Those Discounts!

While at your local bookstore check out "Unbelievably Good Deals & Great Adventures That you Absolutely Can't Get Unless You're Over 50" by Joan Ratter Heilman.

The book tends to focus on travel discounts but does encourage seniors to ask just about anywhere they do business. Some local ones often overlooked:

- First Interstate Bank - free checking
- Hughes Market - 5% discount
- Michael's Craft Stores - 5-10% discount
- Many Museums and Cultural events - from \$2 to 50% off regular admission

Share your favorite deal or discount with your Omnilore colleagues. We'll publish it here!

MEMBERSHIP COFFEE HELD

Twelve would-be members of the **Omnilore Society** attended a coffee for prospective members on June 14. The purpose of the event was twofold; to acquaint them with one another and to learn about the operation of the organization.

Members of the **Omnilore Board** explained how meetings are conducted and how members participate. Eleven of the prospective members enrolled for summer study/discussion groups.

Chairing the event was Elyse Boozer, who was assisted by Ethel Allen, Cecilia Carrol, and Edith Garvey.

OMNIOLOREANS' FORECAST SOUGHT FOR TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

21st Century

After spending the spring semester boning up on what may or may not lie ahead in the next 100 years, members of the 21st Century study/discussion group decided to prepare their own forecasts and predictions of what is to come and how to improve the world.

They are currently soliciting additional suggestions from all Omniloreans. All offerings will be placed in a "time capsule, mayonnaise jar, or empty champagne bottle" to be opened with great ceremony on New Year's Eve, December 31, 2000 in the presence of all of us who wish to join in the merriment of the millennium, according to Margaret Koch, 21st Century co-coordinator.

Your prediction is being sought. Please send your contribution to Ray Allen, coordinator of Preparing for the 21st Century, 1272 Via Landeta, Palos Verdes Estates, Ca.90274.

KEEPER OF THE KEYS

Gen Carlisle is **OmnioLore's** official keeper of the keys. If you need a key to Classroom 7 or Classroom 8, the person to contact is Gen Carlisle, **OmnioLore** Treasurer, who will provide you with a key for a small deposit.

OmnioLoreans are reminded that in an emergency, if they have not brought their key, they are not to go to anyone on campus to borrow a key except for the staff person on duty in Room 1. Your cooperation is appreciated.

ARIZONA BOUND

It's with a tear in our eye that we bid a fond farewell to our **OmnioLore** colleague, Pat Greene. All of you who have worked with Pat as a member of the Communications Committee or participated in a study/discussion group with her know what an asset we are losing. Pat and her husband are moving to Arizona and we wish them much happiness and luck. Pat, we expect to be notified when you convene your first "Learning in Retirement" group in your new environment.

OmnioLore News.

Comments and input can be sent to

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Omniole Profiles Virginia Levanas

Virginia Levanas is one of the few — if not the only — member of *Omniole* to lay claim to being born in Redondo Beach. Quite literally! Delivered by a physician aunt, she came into this world on the dining room table of the house on Beryll Street that her father had built. Because her father was in the oil drilling business, the family moved around the South Bay each time a new oil field came in during her early childhood.

By the time she was 13, the family had left this area and settled in Avenal a little oil town in the San Joaquin Valley. The serene memories of those years were so satisfying that to this day when the pressures of a busy city life prove momentarily overwhelming, Virginia takes off for Avenal to spend time renewing her energies on her sister's cattle ranch.

A nurse for over a quarter of a century before her retirement five years ago, Virginia attended U.C.L.A. and received her R.N. degree from St.

Vincent College of Nursing in Los Angeles. Exactly one week after graduation, she married Dr. Leo Levanas, who worked at Shell Oil Company. They have been married for 47 years. After spending the first nine years of married life in Los Angeles, Virginia and Leo moved to the Hollywood Riviera 38 years ago. They still live in the same house where they raised their four children—son Mike, an attorney; and daughters Linda, a nurse; Susan, a teacher; and Gerry, an actress and dancer who lives with her husband and children in France.

When the children were small, Virginia worked as a nurse at local hospitals. But after receiving her bachelor of science degree at Long Beach State College in 1961, she taught in the nursing program at Harbor Community College. She got her masters degree at USC in 1965, and was a staff member at Torrance High School for 26 years. In addition to serving as school nurse, she also taught Family Life Education at Torrance High, and was instrumental in starting a nursing

studies program for Torrance High School students in conjunction with Torrance Memorial Hospital whereby students contemplating careers in medicine received high school credit for serving as volunteer nurses aides at the hospital.

Always interested in negotiating, Virginia has served on the board of the California Teachers Associations and as district president of the California Nurses Association (bargaining agent for improved working conditions for hospital nurses). Since retirement, she has been a lector at St. Lawrence Catholic Church and has served as president of the Hollywood Riviera Garden Club. In addition, she represents the Hollywood Riviera Homeowners Association at Planning Commission meetings for the city of Torrance.

A grandmother of 10 children, Virginia also belongs to a book club and the American Nurses Association. Her hobbies include swimming, reading, tennis and working for environmental issues.

CALENDAR

July 4	Independence Day
July 11-22	Distribution of Fall Study/Discussion Ballots and Registration Forms
July 28	Deadline for Fall Study/Discussion Registration
August 8-12	Fall Coordinators Meetings with Curriculum Committee
August 15	Deadline for September Newsletter
August 16	Board of Directors Meeting
September 5	Labor Day
September 16	Summer Session Ends





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