



# OMNIOLORE NEWS

Volume 10 Issue 6

November 2001

## OMNIOLORE NEWS

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

### Board of Directors

President	Blanche Herring
VP - Academics	Rose Shields
VP - Administration	George Clark
Treasurer	Gordon Kehmeier
Recording Secretary	Nancy Sinclair
Past President	Emil Raulin
Member-at-Large	Jay Edie
Member-at-Large	Nina Landis
Member-at-Large	Helen Leven

### Standing Committee Chairs

Curriculum	Grant Laney
Membership	Patricia Edie
Communications	Ronnie Saunders
Head Coordinator	Edith Garvey

### Forum Chairs

Diana Cutler  
Bette Henning

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

Editor	Ronnie Saunders
Staff Members	Diana Cutler Peggy Houghton Carol Kerster Bob Saunders

## OFFICERS ELECTED AT ANNUAL MEETING

**Blanche Herring** was elected President of *Omniole* at the annual meeting held on Halloween, October 31st, at the Torrance Marriott Hotel.

Also Elected to serve as officers during the coming year were:

- Rose Shields**, Vice President, Academics
- George Clark**, Vice President, Administration
- Nancy Shannon-Sinclair**, Recording Secretary
- Gordon Kehmeier**, Treasurer
- Jay Edie, Nina Landis and Helen Leven**, Members-at-Large

Named as chairpersons by President Herring were:

- Grant Laney**, Curriculum
- Patricia Edie**, Membership
- Ronnie Saunders**, Communications
- Edith Garvey**, Head Coordinator
- Diana Cutler and Bette Henning**, Forum



Blanche Herring

Following the business meeting, **Robin Elder**, owner of *Accessories to Murder*, a Redondo Beach bookstore, discussed how the suspense story evolved into a key place in today's literature.

M  
E  
M  
B  
E  
R  
S  
H  
I  
P  
C  
O  
M  
M  
I  
T  
T  
E  
E

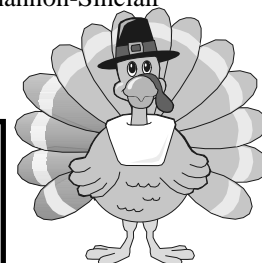


Patricia Edie, Edith Garvey, Joanne Page, Nancy Shannon-Sinclair

# Happy Thanksgiving

### DON'T MISS – IN THIS ISSUE

- ◆ President's Message Page 2
- ◆ Profile – Patricia Edie Page 3
- ◆ Islam S/D Group Visit Page 4





**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

By Emil Raulin

This is my last message as *Omnilore* president. **Blanche Herring**, the new president, along with new officers and board members will take office in November.



offered ideas and suggestions at various times.

*Omnilore* is a volunteer organization and if you enjoy being a part of it, I encourage you to contact one of the chairmen or

This has been a good experience for me and it has been a pleasure to be involved in something I believe in and enjoy. During the past two years I have felt that I was constantly working with other individuals who gave of their time and talents to keep our organization running smoothly as well as exploring ideas as to how we can improve. I want to say thank you to each of the board members as well as to the many other members who offered help when asked and to those who

board members and offer your services. You can help by becoming a committee member or by offering to help with mailings or phone calls. You will get to meet and know someone who may not be in one of your classes and you will get some personal satisfaction from the experience.

**W**alking in Philadelphia with an American acquaintance, an English visitor expressed a wish to see President Washington. A few moments later, the president happened to pass the two men on the opposite side of the street. Pointing at the solitary figure, the American said, "There he goes." The Englishman was surprised. "Is that President Washington?" he exclaimed. "Where is his guard?" The American struck his breast proudly. "Here," he declared.

**Membership Committee Seeks Volunteers**

Has your participation in *Omnilore* added to the richness of your retirement? Would you like to extend the experience to others? Spreading the word of *Omnilore* is the goal of the Membership Committee. By hosting periodic open houses and responding to calls of inquiry, this group guarantees an infusion to the rest of us of new blood and ideas.

This is the time of year when we pass some responsibilities of the *Omnilore* Board to others and we thank those who have been so generous of their time and energy. A very special thank you to **Joanne Page**, who chaired the Membership Committee last year, and to all the committee members: **Merle Culbert, Burt Cutler, Edith Garvey** (who responded to all those phone calls), **Bob Grove, Blanche Herring, H.E. Kamiya, Emil Raulin, Ronnie Saunders, Nancy Shannon-Sinclair** and **Marge Winston** (who sent out get-well and condolence cards to our members).

If you are willing to help with this year's membership efforts, please contact **Patricia Edie** at (310) 822-8549. It is an enjoyable way to add to the *Omnilore* membership while meeting new people.

Welcome our newest member!

**Thomas Stansell**

30110 Via Riviera

Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

(310) 541-2793

T2@Stansell.com



Gypsy Maureen Skiba teamed up with pirate husband, Walter, as one of our more colorful couples!



Witches Diana Cutler, right, and guest.

**Brainstorming Session Set for November 30th**

By Sam Rifman

It's that time again! The Curriculum Committee is pleased to announce the annual Think Tank (a.k.a. Brainstorming Session).

It will take place Friday, November 30th at noon in Room 7 at the Franklin Center. Purpose of the session is to challenge your thinking and design new courses that other *Omnilorians* will enjoy and profit from.

Bring a friend, a classmate, lunch if you choose to – but most of all – bring your ideas!

A free raffle ticket will be given to every attendee for our "grand prize" drawing, and additional tickets will be given to each member of a group that hands in a fully completed suggested-course form. Start thinking and begin making a list of core reading suggestions to supplement your study/discussion ideas.

The committee looks forward to seeing you all!

**OMNIOLORE PROFILE – PATRICIA EDIE, MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN**

Patricia Edie, co-coordinator of the Islam study/discussion group and new membership chair, made her mark in two fields – education and business administration – before taking early retirement in January 2000.

A native of Kent, Ohio, she moved to California with her parents and siblings at the age of 13 and settled in Hawthorne. After graduating from Marymount High School in Palos Verdes, she began working toward a teaching credential at U.C. Santa Barbara and Mount St. Mary’s College in Los Angeles. Married in 1963, she became the mother of three sons.

Patricia stopped attending college full time when she was offered a permanent teaching position on a provisional certificate in 1962. She taught third grade at St. Joseph’s Parish School in Hawthorne during the day and attended college classes in the evenings for several years.

When her sons were beginning college, for economic reasons she took a summer job at Hughes Aircraft. When Hughes offered her a full time position in the Program Security Organization at a much higher salary than she made teaching, she decided to make a temporary career shift, thinking she could always go back to teaching. While at Hughes, she returned to school in the evenings through the University of Redlands, Whitehead Extension Program to finally complete her degree. In 1987 she received a Bachelor of

Science in Business Administration. Then, in 1991, she completed an M.B.A. with an emphasis in Organizational Development from Loyola Marymount.

In the aerospace industry, she experienced a successful career supporting government programs at Hughes and TRW, where she was later recruited. During her 12 years at TRW she advanced to the position of Division Security Manager, reporting directly to the Vice President of Electronic Systems and Technology Division, and was responsible for security compliance on all special programs of two divisions. Yet she often wondered if her energies touched lives and made a difference like they did when she faced a classroom of 10-year-olds. At TRW she managed a staff of 27 people. As well as coordinating their activities, she also found herself taking an active role in their personal development, involved in training and mentoring. In 1997 she was recognized as a Woman of Achievement by TRW. When she learned that this award was the result of a nomination submitted by her entire staff, she realized that it didn’t matter where she was working, she could always be a positive presence in the world and make a difference in the lives of others. Patricia believes that she is an educator at heart. In addition to providing training to her staff at TRW, for five years she has taught numerous courses in business management and communication as an adjunct professor for the University of Phoenix.

No longer married, she enrolled in a ballroom dance class in 1998 where she ran into Jay Edie, a longtime friend from her Hughes days. They married in 1999 and both decided to retire. For the past two and a half years they have been doing all the things they had put on the back burner during their working lives – travel, reading, hiking, taking classes. (They also find time to be involved with family and even babysit for a new little grandson.) They love life and see themselves back in the role of students. As a result, their lives continue to expand.

In their travels, they manage to return to Italy once a year where Patricia discovered, through the internet, 30 cousins living in a small mountain village where her grandfather was born. They are studying Italian so that they are better able to communicate with “la famiglia” on the web and at annual visits to Sicily for reunions.

Residents of Playa del Rey, the Edies discovered *Omniole* when they attended an open house at the Torrance library that Patricia saw advertised in the local newspaper. At the conclusion of the open house, Jay turned to Patricia and said, “I think you have discovered a gold nugget here.” Patricia is looking forward to introducing her 85-year-old mother to *Omniole* – when her mother (who is the former National President of Catholic Daughters of the Americas) can squeeze it into her busy schedule.

The apple doesn’t fall far from the tree.



Benjamin Franklin thought the turkey would have been a good symbol for our nation. He said: “I wish the Bald Eagle had not been chosen as the representative of our country; he is a bird of bad moral character; like those among men who live by sharpening and robbing, he is generally poor and often very lousy. The turkey is a much more respectable bird and withal a true original native of North America.”



Meredith Grenier, *Daily Breeze* reporter who covers all *Omniole* annual meetings, with Ginger Engstrom, right.

Chef Raulin, outgoing President cooked up a great annual meeting!



November	2	Chess Club - 1 p.m.
	8	Board of Directors Meeting - Noon
	13	Membership Committee Meeting - 12:15 p.m.
	16	Curriculum Committee Mailing - Noon
	16	Hiking Group - 10 a.m.
	22	<b>Thanksgiving</b>
	30	Annual Think Tank - Noon
December	3	Forum Committee Meeting—11:45 a.m.
	7	Chess Club - 1 p.m.
	11	Membership Committee Meeting - 12:15 p.m.
	13	Board of Directors Meeting - Noon
	14	Curriculum Committee - Noon
	15	Input Deadline for Next Newsletter
	21	Hiking Group - 10 a.m.
	25	<b>Christmas</b>
	31	New Nameplates Deposited in Classroom Closet
	31	Trimester Ends

## OMNIOLORE CALENDAR

2001



### IMPORTANT

Please Note: Calendar changes and additions may be made in one of two ways:  
Either phone George Clark to reserve a room, or mark the corkboard calendar in  
Room 7 and notify George Clark via e-mail.

George Clark's contact information: (310) 546-2343 – GLCSr@aol.com

### Thanksgiving Tidbits

In California, the first thanksgiving is said to have been celebrated in 1769 in the month of July. Mexico, at this time, wanted to keep the British and Russians from gaining control of the Pacific coast. So Mexicans were being sent to found colonies in California.

Of some three-hundred Mexicans who set out for San Diego in 1769, only a hundred and twenty-six ever reached it. By this time their food supply was very low and there was danger from hostile Indians. Had it not been for Father Junipero Serra, who came to the Mexicans' rescue, they might all have starved. So, on July 1st, Father Serra held a mass of thanksgiving for the survivors.

Special days of thanksgiving were set aside after victories during the American Revolution by the Continental Congress, and George Washington named a day of thanksgiving after the Constitution was adopted in 1789. However, it wasn't until after the Civil War that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November 1863 as Thanksgiving Day for the whole nation, largely in response to the compelling campaign by Mrs. Sarah Hale who had spent twenty years in its advocacy via letters to public figures such as presidents and state governors, via speeches and articles, and as editor of the magazine *Godey's Lady Book*. Her editorials during the conflict and at its end, stressing such a day would help heal "sectional feelings," appealed to the President who longed for this healing to begin, and he made his proclamation only weeks after reading her latest editorial.

The United States of America was the first nation in the world to make Thanksgiving a public, legal holiday. In 1941 a joint resolution of Congress provided that the "fourth Thursday in November in each year after the year 1941 be known as Thanksgiving Day, and it is hereby made a legal public holiday to all intents and purpose." American troops stationed all over the world during WWII brought curiosity and awareness of our national Thanksgiving Day to other countries, most pro-



### E-Mail Update

The following members have updated their e-mail addresses as follows:

**Robert Brennan** is now:

DA\_Brenn@juno.com

**Patricia & Jay Edie** are now:

JayEdie@mediaone.net

**Arlene & Paul Kaye** are now:  
AandPKaye@earthlink.net

**Joyce Loranger** is now:

JoyceL14@aol.com

**Jeanne Page** is now:  
aggerbeckpage@earthlink.net

**Gordon Reiter** is now:

Reiter2X@aol.com

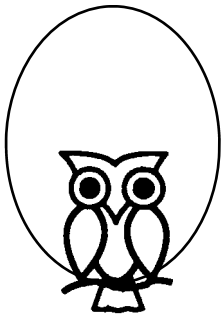
**Alan Scharff** is now:

asScharff@home.com

**Clarkia & Whit Wilson** are now:

WilsonWS@earthlink.net

foundly in England, where officers were invited to address schools about this day's origins.



**Omnilore, CSUDH**  
**Division of Extended Education**  
**PMB 236**  
**P.O. Box 7000**  
**Redondo Beach, Ca. 90277-8710**