



# OMNILORE NEWS

Volume 12 Issue 6

November 2003

## 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. Please contact the editor with your contributions.

Editor	Ronnie Saunders
Staff Members	Diana Cutler Carol Kerster

### Officers Elected at Annual Meeting

George Clark was re-elected president of *Omnilore* at the annual meeting held October 29th at the Marriott Hotel in Torrance. Serving on his board will be Nancy Shannon-Sinclair, Vice President, Academics; Carol Johnson, Vice President, Administration; JoAnna Kerrigan, Recording Secretary; John Stevens, Treasurer; Blanche Herring, Past President; Tom Vincent, Lori Geittmann and Rick Spillane, Members-at-Large. Chairpersons will include: Edith Garvey, Membership; Diana Cutler, Forum; Ronnie Saunders, Communications; Emil Raulin, Head Coordinator; and Burt Cutler, Curriculum.



Green Beret  
George Clark  
President



Skateboarder Burt Cutler with Graduate of School of Hard Knocks, Diana Cutler



Carol Johnson  
VP Administration  
Safari Theme



Punk Rocker  
John Stevens  
Treasurer



Nancy Shannon-Sinclair  
Masquerading as Judge Judy



JoAnna Kerrigan  
Recording Secretary



As ever, Mary & Jim O'Neill dazzled us with their colorful costumes!



*Omnilore* President George Clark poses with CSUDH Extended Education's Dean Margaret Gordon (right) and Letty Rodriguez



Women of the Press!  
Ronnie Saunders and Ginger Engstrom with Meredith Grenier from *The Daily Breeze*



Grant & Patti Laney charmed us with Cat in the Hat Costumes

Hal Simmons, Marie-France Brush and Bob Bacinski



What do you get if you divide the circumference of a pumpkin by its diameter?

Pumpkin pi.

What do you call a stolen yam?

A hot potato.



### DON'T MISS - IN THIS ISSUE

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By George Clark

I recently went to my high school reunion and talked to classmates I have known since fifth grade. We exchanged reminiscences of our common experiences in school and told of our lives since graduation. A person gets to know classmates well over the school years, so it is a pleasure to see the familiar faces and see who and what the people have become. The boy whose hobby as a child was Tarzan has grown into a man who has

personally met every cartoonist who ever drew the comic strip and who attends every Tarzan convention (they have conventions!). The girl who was president of the Student Council is a political activist and gadfly who keeps the City Council on their toes.

The group was of an age well represented in *Omniole*, but I was struck by the differences. Whereas *Omniole*ians are overwhelmingly internet active, my former classmates are not. Many of the group have negative attitudes about both computers and

the internet. One of my friends, probably the smartest girl in the class, has been trying to establish an e-mail roundtable among the group, with little success. My two best friends in high school don't have computers and don't want them. Another said that once he got through high school, he never wanted to see the inside of a classroom again. The experience made me appreciate the remarkable people of *Omniole* more than ever.



## OMNIOLORE CONTRIBUTORS

The Curriculum Committee (CC) wishes to salute our members who submitted a record-number of high-quality topic submissions for the Spring '04 trimester; many of these write-ups appeared in the latest membership offerings which you received several weeks ago:

**Ellen Bradford, George Clark, Burt & Diana Cutler, Jay & Patricia Edie, Richard Foy, Edith Garvey, Lori Geittmann, Blanche Herring, Dick Johnson, Helen Leven, Mary Jo Little, Norman Lobsenz, Jeanne Miller, Mary & Jim O'Neill** (\*\*special stars for these two for the most submissions), **Mary Oran, Myron Pullen, Emil Raulin, Sam Rifman, Bob Saunders, Terry Savage, Mike Scordan, Nancy Shannon-Sinclair, Rick Spillane, John Taber, Peg Van Vooren, Myrna Walker and Whit Wilson.**

No need to wait for the CC to request topics for the next trimester - we're most happy to receive topic submissions whenever an idea for an S/DG hits you - the forms are in the CC box, and that is where to place your submission. Indeed, additional submissions are coming in all the time, destined for Summer 2004. (We'll throw kudos to the submitters every trimester - which reminds us that we failed to recognize last trimester's contributions from **John LaBouff** - thanks, John.)

Thanks for your special service to *Omniole*!  
Your Curriculum Committee



## Brown Bag Science

Brown-Bag lectures on Science for the Intelligent Layman are scheduled for the first Thursday of every month in Room 7 at noon. Our next treats are:

**November 6** *Global Warming: Fact, Fancy or Fright?* - by John Stevens

Find out the latest on the causes of global warming. When all the ice melts, will the oceans rise enough to inundate Los Angeles? What is the scientific evidence for global warming? How bad will it get? Where do we go from here?

**December 4** *The Search for Missing Matter in the Universe* - by Lloyd Money

Physicists can account for only about 5% of the universe. They have found evidence that there is not enough mass in galaxies such as the milky way to provide the gravity to keep the stars from flying apart. What accounts for the missing "dark matter" and missing "dark energy?" Join in learning about the evidence and the hunt on the cutting edge of physics.

**January 1** Presentation is canceled for New Year's Day

**February 5** *The Developing Brain* - by Ruth Money

The astounding progress in non-invasive technology allows us now to see the development of the living brain from shortly after the egg is fertilized by the sperm. Until recently, it was thought that you die with the neurons you are born with. It is only in the last decade that scientists can see that neurons continue to be formed during the life span - good news for *Omniole*ians!

### We Need Your Input!

Although speakers have been scheduled for the immediate future by **Burt Cutler**, who founded this series with the help of committee members **Dan Stern, George Clark, Terry Savage** and myself, we hope to continue them indefinitely. I have been asked to take the responsibility for next year, and we are hoping to hear from many of you - either to recommend someone to present a Brown Bag Science lecture in the future, or to let us know if you are interested in doing one yourself.

Those who attended the most recent lecture on *Earthquakes* heard **Gordon Kehmeier**, an *Omniole*ian who knows about earthquakes firsthand from having investigated the aftermath of many of them. We heard a fascinating report from a man whose professional life was spent in monitoring and overseeing structural standards to prevent damage. He showed diagrams of the earth cross-section and explained the destructive effects of "s" waves and "surface" waves. He also gave us a few historical references such as beliefs in ancient Japan that

"earthquakes were caused by a big turtle." Gordon has also tracked California quakes over many years and has found that many of them occur at full moon, at 6 a.m., and 6 p.m. So look out at cocktail time!

Lloyd Money  
379-0504

Opportunity's favorite disguise is trouble.

**OMNIOLORE PROFILE – MARILOU LIEMAN**

Mathematics has been the love of Marilou Lieman’s life ever since she was a small girl whose father delighted in challenging her young mind by playing math games.

Her early fascination with math led to a career which took her both into local classrooms and around the state of California where she conducted workshops and taught classes as a mentor teacher. In her retirement she has kept this love alive by turning one room of her Rancho Palos Verdes home into a study where she tutors youngsters in mathematics.

Born in the Bronx, she graduated from Walton High School and City College of New York. Married during her junior year in college, Marilou taught elementary school in New York for one year before moving with her husband to Palo Alto where her two sons were born. A stay-at-home mom during her Palo Alto years, Marilou enrolled at Santa Clara University where she received her

masters degree in English literature. As a pregnant graduate student Marilou took her French book to the hospital when she went into labor and put the time in the maternity ward to good use studying French.

After four years in Palo Alto Marilou and her family moved to Palos Verdes. While her sons were in nursery school, she picked up her teaching credential in mathematics from Cal State Dominguez Hills.

In 1978 she returned to teaching - first as an elementary school teacher and then as a math specialist at Vista Grandé school in Palos Verdes. After four years as a mentor teacher for the state of California she resumed teaching math at Vista Grandé.

When she wasn’t behind the desk in her classroom Marilou was a soccer mom, chauffeuring her sons to games all over the state of California. In addition, she became involved in book groups, took her family camping at state parks, and

enjoyed attending the theatre and musical events with her husband and children.

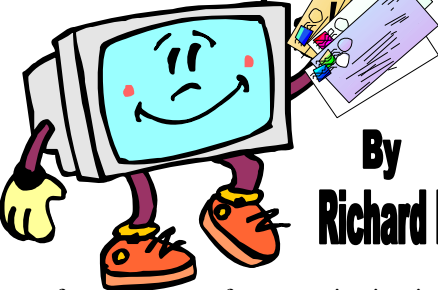
She has always loved traveling, visiting places all over the United States, Canada and Europe when her children were small, and after they were grown accompanying her significant other to Antarctica, Cambodia and New Zealand. She recently took her first Elderhostel trip to Four Corners (where the states of Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona meet).

After she retired in 2000, **John Taber** (whom she met on Sierra Club hikes) introduced her to *Omniole*. She still spends her spare time enjoying hiking, music and theater, and currently belongs to two book groups.

Besides visiting her mother in Washington, D.C., she enjoys traveling to Boston where her son Daniel is a mathematician and to Marin County where son Todd is involved in space Advance Marketing.

**E-Mail Discussion,**

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**By  
Richard Foy**

One of my favorite ways of communicating is through e-mail discussions. One of the big advantages over a group discussion is the ability to respond when I have the time and the inclination to do so. Another is that I can let my thoughts germinate in my head when I am not on-line. Another is that there are no interruptions when I am paying attention to someone’s message.

Most of all I think that such a list can be responsive to the events of the moment. For example, I would like it very much right now, as I type this on September 25th, to be participating in such a list discussing the recall election with *Omniole* people. The type of discussion I would like is one that looks at the bigger issues rather than the political issues of the moment. Instead, I would like to discuss the underlying factors of our system that caused this to happen, such as, is it good or harmful in general to have recall elections, etc.

If anyone is interested in participating in this type of e-mail discussion, please advise me via email at rfoyh@earthlink.net.

**Prospective Member Meeting in December**

The Membership Committee is getting ready for another Learning about *Omniole* meeting where we introduce prospective members to information about *Omniole*’s discussions, presentations and other good things. We will meet in Room 8 at Franklin Center on December 5th starting at 10 a.m. for a 2-hour session. Our new trimester which will be starting soon (2004) - is not that far away! So, if you have a friend who would like to join, tell him/her about this chance to find out more about our group. Remember, this meeting is required for all who wish to become members.



Why not upset the apple cart? If you don’t, the apples will rot anyway!

**Ad Hoc Philosophers**

If you have a continuing interest in Western Philosophy, and if you have, say, a college minor in the subject and would like to extend your understanding, you may find that our Critical Philosophy Group to be just the thing for you, as it is for us.



We meet in each other’s homes for two hours about every four weeks, outside of *Omniole*. Members of the group choose a text to study and at each meeting analyze and discuss sections (or chapters) of the book. Everyone engages in a give-and-take discussion. There are no presentations.

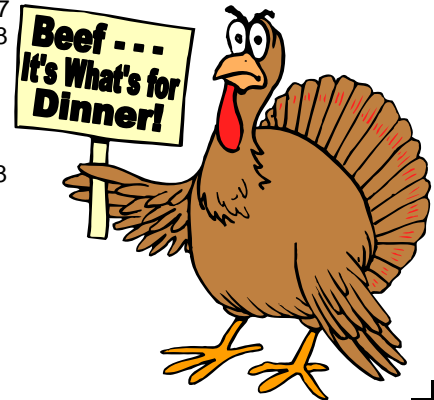
Currently we consist of six members - all *Omniole*ians - but are thinking of expanding. If you have the academic background, interest, and are looking for more, call or e-mail Terry Savage (377-4086 - terrysavage@cox.net). Prior to joining the group, Terry will help you determine if the group is suitable for you and if you are suitable for us. If you have a friend who might also be interested, feel free to refer him/her.



## OMNIOLORE CALENDAR

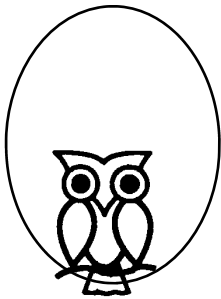
2003

<b>November</b>	6	Brown-Bag Science (BBS) Series - 12-1:00 p.m. - Room 7 <i>Global Warming</i> - John Stevens
	11	Membership Committee Meeting - 12:15 p.m. - Room 7
	13	Board of Directors Meeting - 12 Noon to 2 p.m. - Room 7
	14	Computers & Technology SIG - 1:30-3:30 p.m. - Room 8
	21	Hiking Group - 10 a.m.
	<b>27</b>	<b>Thanksgiving</b>
	28	Computers & Technology SIG - 1:30-3:30 p.m. - Room 8
<b>December</b>	4	Brown-Bag Science (BBS) Series - 12-1:00 p.m. - Room 7 <i>Search for Missing Matter</i> - Lloyd Money
	5	Introducing <b>Omnio</b> Meeting - 10 a.m.-12 Noon - Room 8
	9	Membership Committee Meeting - 12:15 p.m. - Room 7
	11	Board of Directors Meeting - 12 Noon to 2 p.m. - Room 7
	12	Computers & Technology SIG - 1:30-3:30 p.m. - Room 8
	15	Input Deadline for January-February Newsletter
	19	Hiking Group - 10 a.m.
	<b>24</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>
	<b>25</b>	<b>Christmas</b>
	26	Computers & Technology SIG - 1:30-3:30 p.m. - Room 8
	31	<b>New Year's Eve</b>



### IMPORTANT

Calendar changes and additions may be made in one of two ways:  
Either phone Carol Johnson (310) 372-8535, or mark the corkboard calendar in  
Room 7 and notify Carol Johnson via e-mail at [cnordj@sprynet.com](mailto:cnordj@sprynet.com) .



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