



OMNIOLORE NEWS

Volume 18 Issue 2

www.omnilore.org

March 2009

OLLI@CSUDH OMNIOLORE

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

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

Editor	Diana Cutler
Staff Member	Carol Kerster



Ron Wildermuth

“Water, Water Everywhere” (But Is There Enough?)

By Carol Kerster

It's definition takes up five inches in the dictionary. It is colorless but can appear to be many different colors; it freezes, it boils, it can be calm and still, or wild and turbulent. It can be lifesaving or fatal when ingested or entered. It can transport huge vessels, or destroy entire cities. And it seems to be everywhere.

Of course, I'm talking about WATER. And if you think that there's nothing new to be known about this ubiquitous substance, you're in for a grand surprise.

At our next Forum Luncheon, Wed., April 29, our Guest Speaker is a man who is not only expert on the subject of water, but is committed to its reliability and quality. **Ron Wildermuth** is Public and Governmental Affairs Manager, West Basin Municipal Water District. This position also includes sound resource and financial management, customer service and environmental stewardship.

Prior to this post, Ron was Communications Director of the Orange County Water District, and as such was known as a worldwide leader in groundwater management and water reuse. Before that, he was Director of Corporate Relations for Parsons Corporation, a top international engineering and construction firm. His service in the navy, from which he is now a retired Captain, included the job of Public Relations Advisor to General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, before, during and after the Gulf War, and supervisor of the entire Gulf War in-theater public relations effort (1989-1992).

Ron's education seems to have lead directly to these unique positions. His higher education includes a B.A. in International Relations and Sociology, St. Ambrose College, Davenport, IA; M.S. Public Relations, American University, Washington, D.C.; M.S. Naval Science, Naval War College, Newport, RI; Mass Communications Program, Honors Graduate, University of Oklahoma.

Given so much news of drought in many places around the world, as well as in our own state, Ron will talk about the West Basin's Water Reliability 2020 program to create new local water supplies that make our water future more reliable, which should be of great and timely interest to *Omnioleans*. So register for this Forum Luncheon meeting ASAP. Use the form to be found on page 7 of this newsletter, or look for what is sure to be a pastel-colored flyer in your regular mail - it is spring, after all! And we'll meet, eat, socialize and be educated at our favorite outside-of-class meeting spot, the Los Verdes Country Club.

DON'T MISS – IN THIS ISSUE

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Ruth Hart

You all know that Omnilore is affiliated with Cal State University Dominguez Hills, but may not be sure of the nature of that relationship. Although we have been affiliated with CSUDH for about 17 of Omnilore's 19 years, our relationship is changing. The most evident change so far has been an increase of \$30/person during the current membership year, a change that was not adequately communicated to our members. Not surprisingly, many of our members have wondered what we are getting for that extra \$30, which pays for membership in the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at CSUDH.

Omnilore is one program of OLLI at CSUDH, which itself is one of over 120 similar OLLI programs at colleges and universities in 49 states and the District of Columbia, including all University of California and many Cal State campuses, other public universities, and private universities such as Northwestern and Duke. Each OLLI operates independently and develops its own curriculum. Although a few include peer learning programs such as Omnilore, most emphasize more traditional approaches to lifelong learning, such as lectures by current and retired professors, computer classes, other self-improvement classes, and other less participative forms of learning. Some include less formal Special Interest Groups. Annual meetings are held on a national and regional basis, where member organizations can share ideas and come up with new ways to better serve their memberships. More information on the OLLI organization can be found at <http://usm.maine.edu/olli/national/>.

The Bernard Osher Foundation provides support to these programs, including yearly startup grants of \$100,000 for up to 3 years, a \$1 million endowment for programs with at least 500 members, and an additional \$1 million endowment for programs with at least 1000 members. OLLI at CSUDH has received several years of startup funding and, understandably, is

interested in receiving the endowment grants. Although initially they hoped to achieve the necessary membership by expanding Omnilore, we all came to realize that, because of Omnilore's unique mission, this would not be possible if we limited ourselves to the Omnilore study/discussion group format. Furthermore, Omnilore chose not to expand our mission to more traditional areas because we did not want to dilute the current emphasis. However, the Omnilore Board has supported CSUDH's attempts to expand their own lifelong learning initiatives in order to qualify for the endowment grants. Omnilore members serve on OLLI committees, and several of our members have volunteered to teach OLLI classes. For example, this trimester, **Carol Johnson** is teaching a computer class, **Patricia Edie** is teaching a class on memoir writing, and **Jay Edie** is sharing knowledge gained in recent Omnilore S/DGs in a class called "Expensive Oil and Global Warming." All of these classes are open to Omnilore members at a nominal additional charge (see article about this on page 4).

Last month, CSUDH held an open house for prospective OLLI members and was delighted that 150 people attended. They received 80 new OLLI memberships, bringing the total to over 400 (including about 275 Omniloreans). Some of these new members have already expressed interest in joining Omnilore as well.

So what do we get from our association with CSUDH? The most tangible benefit is the free use of the meeting rooms at Franklin Center, together with free parking. If we had to rent rooms from another organization, this would increase our fees substantially, well beyond the \$30 OLLI fee. OLLI members also get discounts at the CSUDH bookstore, including student discounts on software, library privileges, notification of campus events, and the opportunity to audit University courses

for reduced rates, among other benefits. The Fall and Spring lecture series previously available to Omniloreans are now included in OLLI membership at no additional charge.



Change is always unsettling, but in most cases can be positive, as long as it is well thought out and communicated well. The expansion of OLLI at CSUDH provides additional learning opportunities both for Omniloreans and for other seniors who may not be comfortable with the Omnilore peer learning model. As OLLI expands, more and more options will be available to its members. Some of these may be sponsored by Omnilore but open to all OLLI members; others will be sponsored by the larger organization.

Understandably, the startup process has not always been completely smooth, and there may be additional bumps along the way. The financial arrangements may continue to evolve (in particular, next year the \$30 OLLI charge will apply to every member, with no couples discount). However, I have looked at many other OLLI programs and, even with the \$30 increase, Omnilore is one of the best bargains in learning-in-retirement organizations and will remain so. For example, at Northwestern, which has a peer learning structure like Omnilore's, membership options range from \$375-\$540 per year. UC Riverside charges \$125 per trimester. Duke charges \$30 membership/year plus \$80 per *semester* for a single class and \$140 for 2-3 classes. Additionally, the cost of Omnilore membership (aside from the OLLI charge) has not increased in many years.

I hope you will consider availing yourselves of the additional opportunities offered through OLLI and contained in the catalog that you recently received. Furthermore, anyone interested in sharing their own expertise with other OLLI members or otherwise helping to make OLLI a success is encouraged to contact Jim Bouchard at CSUDH.

OMNIOLORE PROFILE – BOB BACINSKI

by Norman Lobsenz

Many people these days have long commutes to work, but Bob Bacinski probably holds the record. At one point in his career as a consultant to aerospace companies, he commuted every two months between his Los Angeles home and apartments in London and Rome, with frequent side trips to other European cities. “Some days,” Bob recalls, “I’d get into my car and forget which side of the road I should drive on.” Today Bob lives in Rolling Hills Estates and always drives on the right.

Exotic places have had a life-long attraction for Bob, perhaps because he grew up in tiny Hamtramich, Michigan, which he describes as an “all-Polish enclave” near Detroit. When he was 11 his parents moved to Tucson, where Bob served as an altar boy at the church of St. John the Evangelist, and entered the University of Arizona planning to be a doctor. But in 1957 Russia’s Sputnik opened his eyes to the new era of space exploration, and Bob changed goals – getting his B.S. in electrical engineering.

In the early years of his career Bob’s work at Aerojet-General focused on the design of a new breed of ground antenna devices that would improve radio communication with space satellites. One of his early assignments was to develop an entirely new shape for a 100-foot diameter ground antenna based in Morocco to be a radio link with Intelsat, one of the first space communication systems. Later, for TRW, Bob was systems engineer responsible for radio communication with the first U.S. space shuttle. He eventually worked for twelve years as a freelance consultant for aerospace companies in four European countries. He retired in 1992, at the age of 55.

In his personal life, Bob believes the most important word is “passion.” The two things he is most passionate about are his children, and Omnilore. Married twice (for a total of 30 years), and divorced twice, Bob has three daughters -- an architect, a school psychologist, and an expert in computer graphics –

whom he sees as often as time and distances allow. “Because we all live far from one another, we schedule a reunion every two years at a family compound in Kauai,” Bob says.” Having two uninterrupted weeks together allows us to reconnect, to bond.”

Bob has literally bonded with Omnilore, too. Since joining in 1993, he says he has taken more than 100 S/DGs – a testimony to the wide range of his intellectual curiosity. Each trimester Bob signs up for what he calls “one right-brain and one left-brain” course: “Many of these classes have changed me for the better, changed my total attitude toward justice, religion, politics, my world.” But what he values even more are the special friends Omnilore has given him: “Each week I spend hours talking with them, “ Bob says, “and they have taught me all I know about tennis, golf, and wisdom.”

Incidentally, for those uninformed Omniloreans who may wonder why Bacinski walks around carrying on his back what looks like a surfboard, it is because during his working years in Europe he ruined his back doing “crazy skiing” in the Alps. Unless Bob uses the back support he cannot sit without severe pain. And if even that doesn’t help he may just lie down on the classroom floor.

But a bad back hasn’t stopped him from traveling – to Europe, Australia, Fiji – and being more active than most folks his age (71). He enjoys white-water rafting, jet-skiing, zip-lining, long hikes, his weekly three-hour game of beach volleyball. Recently he and his friend, Sue, hiked twelve miles across a volcanic crater in New Zealand -- “a nice five-hour trek” he says. On a less strenuous level, Bob enjoys teaching science to schoolchildren. Thus, for more than a dozen years he has volunteered as a docent both at South Bay Botanic Gardens and at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

All of which proves that Bob Bacinski lives up to the motto he would choose for himself: “Just do it!”



OLLI New Member Goal Reached

by Jim Bouchard

Senior Program Development Specialist
Coordinator, Lifelong Learning, OLLI@CSUDH

Grants from the Osher Foundation depend on two factors: (1) membership and (2) sustainability. Last fall Dean Gordon set an ambitious (and, at times, seemingly impossible!) goal of increasing our OLLI Membership to 400 by January 31, 2009. Attaining this goal meant enrolling over 70 new members. With the help of many Omnilore members, we exceeded this goal by enrolling 425 new members!

Our OLLI open house on January 27 drew a crowd of over 150, and resulted in over 80 new members. One of the

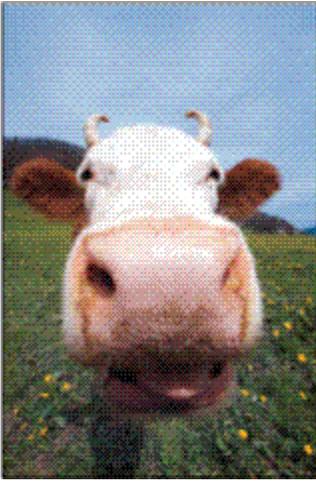
most effective marketing strategies was the 8,000 postcards sent out to Carson residents who are at least 50 years of age. The Dean’s next goal is to have 500 OLLI members by September 1. Achieving this goal will allow us to apply for a \$1,000,000 grant for the Bernard Osher Foundation.

Thank you to the Omniloreans who volunteered to sit on the OLLI membership, marketing, and curriculum planning committees. Also thank you to those Omniloreans who are teaching OLLI courses this spring semester!



OLLI’s Spring Series’ Bird Conservation Lecture a Hit

On Wednesday, February 18th Dr. John Thomlinson’s presentation on bird conservation included a fascinating discussion of the Gardena Willows, a gated 40 acre wildlife preserve. This preserve, located at the corner of Vermont and Artesia, reflects the original landscape of the South Bay region prior to development. The preserve is open twice a month: one Sunday for a guided tour, and one Saturday for maintenance by volunteers. Following the lecture, 8 OLLI members volunteered to assist with the Gardena Willows. For more information on the Gardena Willows, visit www.gardenawillows.org.



Notes From Noah

Dear Omnioleoreans...

You will not believe this! There really is **no Omnioleore Owl!** Yes! Whenever an owl image is needed whatever is handy is what is used! Wouldn't you be upset if you found out that you were a non-being even while everyone is stating that you are *the* symbol of *everything* Omnioleore stands for? Goodness, I could claim to be the owl and there would be my

face on the newsletter! Don't tell anyone you heard it from me.

Love you all, Noah.

Noah has it right. It has come to the Omnioleore Board's attention that there is no standardized image for our owl. Therefore, we are announcing a competition among our membership to create our owl. (I personally see him as white with bushy eyebrow feathers, rounded ears alert to his audience's responses as he speaks to them from behind a lectern.)

How do you picture our owl? We would love to see your ideas! Myron Pullen, has been asked to be the focal point for all submission of ideas. If using a "borrowed" image, be aware of copyright restrictions/rules. More details to follow.

March & April Dates Set for New "Introducing Omnioleore"

by Howard Korman



The Membership Committee has scheduled two "Introducing Omnioleore" meetings in March and April for prospective members who may want to join Omnioleore for the Summer trimester. Dates are:

Wednesday, March 25th

&

Thursday, April 2nd

starting at 10 AM at the Franklin Center.

Attendance at one of these meetings is mandatory to become a new member, so please tell anyone you know who might be interested about these upcoming dates. We know that most of our new members join as a result of referrals by current members. We have a wonderful organization with a great deal to offer, and classes that are very enjoyable and informative.

Help Spread the Word!

Omnioleore Instructors at OLLI@CSUDH

By now you have all received your OLLI catalog in the mail. Did you notice that three of the classes listed as Instructor-Led are being taught by Omnioleoreans? **Jay Edie** will be teaching, "*Expensive Oil and Global Warming*," a course that explains the environmental condition and provides alternative approaches to heading off the harmful effects. He taught this class last semester and it was very well received. The subject is evolving daily so this new class will have very timely information. **Patricia Edie** will facilitate a writer's workshop, "*This is Your Life: Memoir Writing*." The four sessions will provide a motivating and safe environment to begin to capture those important events in one's life as a legacy for family or as a way to document the path of how one got to be the person they are. **Carol Johnson** will instruct a class for beginning computer users, "*How Do You Turn This Computer On?*" This is Carol's second time teaching this class and her expertise has been appreciated by her students. If you are interested in enrolling in any of these classes, there is a form in your catalog. There is a small cost for each one.

Omnioleore's involvement as teachers in the Instructor-Led classes demonstrates the synergy between the Peer-Led program of Omnioleore and the Instructor-Led program of OLLI@CSUDH. Any Omnioleorean, with a specific interest or expertise, can volunteer to be an instructor for a one session class or a series of sessions. Just contact Jim Bouchard or Joanne Zitelli at CSUDH and request a Course Proposal Form to complete and submit to the OLLI Curriculum Committee for consideration for future semesters.

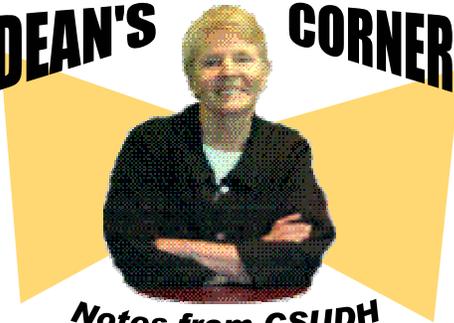
IN MEMORIUM

Gene Parrish, a recent member of Omnioleore, has died at age 82. Many of you probably heard him as a host on classical music station KUSC. He also was the voice of *Worldwide Jazz* for many years. He is survived by his wife, **Ellie**, also a recent Omnioleorean.

Former Omnioleorean **Eileen Rifman** has passed away. Eileen was an accomplished pianist and piano teacher. She was a long-time peer counselor at Beach Cities Health District. Eileen was the wife of Omnioleorean **Sam Rifman**, and a mother and grandmother.

Perry Davis, a member of Omnioleore for the past five years, has died at age 88. Perry was a public affairs officer for the Army Corps of Engineers; one of his duties was to write speeches for them. He was a lover of literature and learning. And he and his wife **Echo** especially enjoyed Omnioleore music classes.

DEAN'S CORNER



Notes from CSUDH

by **Margaret Gordon**
 Dean, Lifelong Learning Institute
 College of Extended & International Education

On January 5, 2009 Dr. Ronald Vogel assumed the post of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at CSU Dominguez Hills. As provost, Dr. Vogel is responsible for all academic programs, policies and faculty at the university. The provost is a member of the President's cabinet. Provost Vogel expressed his enthusiasm for working at CSUDH with President Mildred García: "I am extremely excited about being hired as the new provost and joining the leadership team at CSUDH...I am honored to serve under President García who is a visionary leader with incredible passion and commitment...I look forward to giving the university my energy and dedication to support the unique vision of President García" (qtd. in *Dateline Dominguez Hills* 12/11/2008).

Provost Vogel was selected after a lengthy recruitment and interview process that involved the campus community. He is familiar with the California State University system, having held several administrative posts at CSU Long Beach, including dean of the CSULB College of Health and Human Services, before his appointment as CSUDH Provost. As a dean at CSULB, he headed a large college with 11 departments, four programs and 12 centers which has an annual budget of approximately \$15 million. Dr. Vogel was recognized at CSULB for his achievements in development, with activities bringing in over \$2 million a year for the campus from relationships with agencies, donors, businesses and community leaders. With an Ed.D. in Criminal/Juvenile Justice from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Dr. Vogel had previously chaired departments of criminal justice at different institutions.

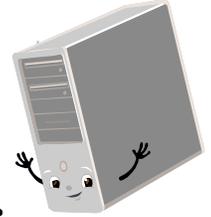
President García welcomed Dr. Vogel to campus saying, "With his decades in higher education and proven leadership skills he will be an asset to this university as we continue to provide our students with educational opportunities second to none" (qtd. in *Dateline Dominguez Hills* 12/11/2008).

Provost Vogel happens to be familiar with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, as the OLLI at CSULB was affiliated with his college. All of us in the College of Extended & International Education look forward to working with our new Provost to provide access to the outstanding resources available at CSUDH. We hope to be able to introduce Dr. Vogel to OLLI members at a future lifelong learning event.



Computer Talks

by Al Peschel



**Coping with SPAM:
 Three Perspectives by Three Omnioleans
 Thursday, March 26th, 12-1 p.m. - Room 7**

Have you lost control over your E-mail Inbox? Your Mail Folders? Do you have trouble deleting messages - messages that will *really* be gone forever? Are you tired of wading through dozens of messages each day - just to find and file the ones you should keep? Do you want to better filter your Inbox to weed out messages important to you from those Canadian prescription drug dealers, X-rated come-ons or from messages that contain harmful viruses, malware or adware?

In the third Computer Talk of the year three *Omnioleans* - each a knowledgeable computer user - will share with us what they do to gain control of their E-mail Inbox and their Mail Folders. Use of both PC and Mac Mail Programs will be explored. They will discuss how to develop and apply Message Rules to filter and automatically file messages to folders. They will give their recommendations on use of SPAM Blockers, how to get off e-mail sender lists, how to use message rules to automatically file incoming messages. They will also share with us what messages they think are worth saving and how to back up messages and address books so they don't get lost.

In learning these skills we will finally find that indeed we do not need to be at the mercy of electronic junk mail - AND *that we can actually find the messages that we took so much trouble to save!*

The presentation, supporting materials and shared information will be designed for inclusion in the new Computer Talks Archival folder on the OMNIOLORE website at http://omnilore.org/members/Curriculum/SDGs/ZZComputer_Talks_Archive/

Please contact **Al Peschel** (310-377-5090) AlPeschel@cox.net or **Rick Spillane** (310-645-1431) RSpillane@ca.rr.com for more information.

**I fancy inside me lives a poet.
 Alas, my works don't show it.
 It pains to admit that I lack talent,
 So I keep my dreams silent.**

Closet Poet

by *Teresa Yu*

**A friend told me about Omniole,
 Said participants won't be bored.
 I signed up and became a member,
 The best deal I could remember.**

**I started taking various classes,
 Reading books with bi-focal glasses.
 But these studies did not help me,
 Morph into the poet I wished to be.**

**Then I joined the Writing Mind,
 A wonderful support group, I find.
 With a forum to hone my craft,
 I begin paddling on the poetry raft.**

Drum Roll for New Website . . .

by the Website Working Group

On Sunday, March 1, 2009, Omnilore will switch over to a new and improved web site at www.Omnilore.org. The image below gives you a preview of our wonderful new homepage. This design makes it easier for you to access all the information and features on our site. In addition, we have added many exciting new features.

You will see that this new homepage has a very clear navigation system, consisting of two columns of links. **The left column contains general information links that are available to anyone on the Internet.** These links are designed to inform existing members as well as potential new members about our organization and its many stimulating activities and opportunities. **The right column contains links to the password protected portion of the web site.** Only members who know the current username and password can access these links.

When the new website becomes available on March 1st, be sure to explore it. Click on all the links and see what is there. You can't get lost. For your convenience, every page contains a link back to the homepage: it is the large, white word **Omnilore**, in the wine-colored header at the top of the page. Just click on it to get back home.

Be sure to look at these pages:

- **Announcement** page: This page is *the single best place* for every member to go to find out what is happening in Omnilore.
- **Curriculum** page: An archive of links to descriptions of past study discussion groups going back to 2004.
- **Newsletters** page: Links to past newsletters going back to 2004.
- **Forms & Guides** page: Links to commonly used Omnilore documents, such as a link to the recent *Presentations 101 Workshop* presentation in both PowerPoint and PDF format.
- **Members' Showcase:** Displays outstanding creative and scholarly works developed by Omniloreans in various Study/Discussion Groups.
- The **Photo Gallery** is an exciting new page that allows members to see full-screen slide shows of photographs from Omnilore events. If you attended the last Forum, take a look at the slide show here; there's a good chance that you'll see a picture of yourself!

The new Omnilore Website redesign was made possible by the Website Working Group (WWG). Chair, **Patricia Edie**; Co-webmasters **Myron Pullen** and **Barbara Case**; and members, **George Clark**, **Jay Edie**, **Blanche Herring**, and **Mary Oran**. We hope that you enjoy exploring and using the new website. If you have any questions, or comments, please refer them to anyone on the WWG.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE **OLLI** at California State University Dominguez Hills

Omnilore
for minds not ready for retirement

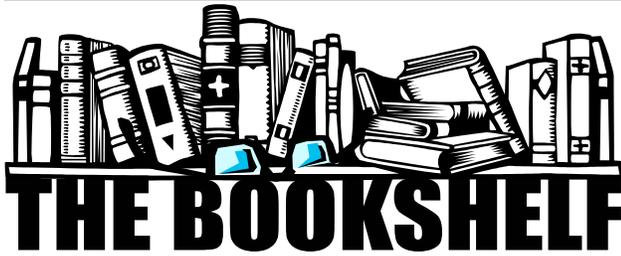
Welcome — Omnilore is a program of the **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)** at the **California State University Dominguez Hills (CSUDH)**. The program is centered on study discussion groups, which meet at classroom facilities in Redondo Beach. A learning-in-retirement community of approximately 300 seniors organizes study discussion groups that are conceived, planned and directed by the members. There are no tests or grades. Membership is open to all who seek intellectual stimulation and the challenge of shared inquiry.



 Search Omnilore Public Website

General Information (Public Website)	Members' Only (Password Required)
About, Contacts, Directions	Calendar, Room Usage
Announcements	Forms & Guides
Booklist or ♥Bookshelf	Minutes, Board & Committees
Computer Talks	Officers
Curriculum	Members' Showcase
Forum	Photo Gallery or ♥Contest
Links, Research & Useful	Procedures Manual
Membership	Rosters, Class & Members
Newsletters	⇒SDG or SDG Folders (Class Files)
Site Index, A – Z	Support Contacts
Special Interest Groups	Volunteer Opportunities

Omnilore—OLLI@CSUDH, P.O. Box 7000-236, Redondo Beach, CA, 90277-8710
Last Updated: January 23, 2009 (bc)



by Mary Oran

Hopefully you can take time away from your presentations and S/DG readings to enjoy some of this month's suggested readings. We will first take a quantum leap into the nonfiction category and consider *Quantum Enigma: Physics Encounters Consciousness* by **Bruce Rosenblum and Fred Kuttner**. The authors are professors of physics at UCSC and offer this material as a lay person's introduction to quantum theory and the implications for consciousness. The well-written and accessible book is a result of a course they teach to liberal arts students. It is described as "worth the read to 'techie' with a philosophical bent too."

If you are in a "memoir-mood," *Mao's Last Dancer* is definitely the book to check out. This is an absolutely engrossing autobiography of **Li Cunxin**, an internationally known ballet dancer. Described as a cross between "*Billy Elliot* and *Torn Curtain*," it is the incredible story of a peasant boy, chosen at age 11 to be taken from his rural home and brought to Beijing to a dance academy. As a young dancer, loyal to Mao, he was chosen to come to America as part of a cultural exchange. The year was 1979. This memoir offers a fascinating picture of China, and reveals

the courage of a very special individual.

Since the year has heightened our interest in the Presidency of the U.S., the third recommendation from an *Omnioleant* is timely. **Doris Kearns**

Goodwin's *No Ordinary Time* shows the many accomplishments of Franklin D. Roosevelt, and also reveals Eleanor's efforts to help the downtrodden and underdogs. The biography is described as exceptionally well-researched and offers a clear picture of a significant time in American history.

For fiction recommendations, a classic suggestion was e-mailed our way. Here is what was written: "The burgeoning interest in the green movement has triggered renewed interest in the classic *Lady Chatterley's Lover* by **D.H. Lawrence**. The responsibilities of a gamekeeper in the greenest of environments, a large English country estate, are detailed. But, as *Field and Stream* magazine critiqued, there is a lot of extraneous material." You should put this one on your must-read list; see what all the chatter is about, green or otherwise.

Jodi Picoult's *My Sister's Keeper* is about a family whose young child develops a rare type of leukemia. The parents decide to have another child genetically designed to save the sick child by giving her blood, bone marrow, etc. to keep her alive. At age 11, the second child rebels. How each family member reacts to this claim of "medical

independence" and the moral questions it raises is at the heart of this book. This is another fascinating tale by Picoult.

The Bellwether Prize for Fiction is awarded biennially to a first literary novel that addresses issues of social justice. *Mudbound* by **Hillary Jordan** received the award in 2008. 1940s Mississippi comes alive through the voices of six characters who alternate the chapter narrations. History, tragedy, romance...farm life, racism, war, and so much more are a part of this book. Reading it is not for the faint of heart for there are some very unpleasant scenes in it, but it certainly conveys a slice of Americana from that time period. *Publishers Weekly* describes it as "A superbly rendered depiction of the fury and terror wrought by racism."

(Our thanks to *Al Blinder, Patricia Edie, Edith Garvey, Jim and Mary O'Neill, and Dan Stern* for contributing to our list. Please send your title with author name and a very brief description to msoran@sbcglobal.net. Please put "Omnioleant books" as the subject. We look forward to hearing from you!)

Homestay Program

Are you interested in hosting an international student? We need host families to accommodate international students for Fall 2009 through Summer 2010. The per-month budget of each Homestay Student is \$500 for a single room + \$125 (2 meals a day), which is a total of \$625 per month. Please contact Michael Casner at 310-243-3972, or e-mail him at mcasner@csudh.edu.

OMNIOLORE Forum Luncheon Reservation Form

WHEN: **Wednesday, April 29th, 2009 – 11:30 a.m.**

WHERE: **Los Verdes Country Club**
7000 W. Los Verdes Drive
Rancho Palos Verdes

Please make _____ reservations for the **Omnioleant Annual Luncheon** at **\$17.50** each:

Name(s): _____ Phone #: _____
(Please Print) _____
(Please Print) _____

Enclosed is a check for: **\$17.50** Other

Please make checks out to **CSUDH**, and put in the Forum Committee's box or send to:

Forum Committee, c/o Diana Cutler
10 Middleridge Lane S.
Rolling Hills, CA 90274

Reservations are required by April 24th, please!

- March**
- 8 **Daylight Savings Time Begins**
 - 10 Membership Committee - 12 Noon - 1 p.m. - Room 7
 - 12 Board of Directors Meeting - 12 Noon - 2 p.m. - Room 7
 - 17 **St. Patrick's Day**
 - 20 **First Day of Spring**
 - 20 Hiking Group - 10 a.m. - 12 Noon
 - 25 Introducing Omnilore Meeting - 10 a.m. - 12 Noon - Room 7
 - 26 Computer Talks - 12 Noon - 1 p.m. - Room 7
Coping with SPAM—Three Perspectives
by Three Omniloreans (see article page 5)
- April**
- 1 **April Fool's Day**
 - 2 Introducing Omnilore Meeting - 10 a.m. - 12 Noon - Room 8
 - 9 Board of Directors Meeting - 12 Noon - 2 p.m. - Room 7
 - 9 **Passover**
 - 10 **Good Friday**
 - 12 **Easter**
 - 14 Membership Committee - 12 Noon - 1 p.m. - Room 7
 - 15 Input Deadline for May-June 09 Newsletter
 - 17 Hiking Group - 10 a.m. - 12 Noon
 - 22 **Earth Day**
 - 23 Computer Talks - 12 Noon - 1 p.m. - Room 7
Topic to be Announced via E-Mail
 - 29 Spring Forum - 11:30 (see article page 1)

OMNIOLORE
CALENDAR
2009

Happy
St. Patrick's
Day!



IMPORTANT:Calendar changes and additions are scheduled with
Lynn Taber (310) 831-4768 - led-



A CALL FOR HAMS . . .



Have you ever had a secret desire to be featured on TV? Here is your chance to have your 15 minutes of fame in an interview on CitiCable about your participation in



Omnilore. Contact **Dale Korman**, 310-373-2442, if you have an interest in finding out more details."

"Drinks" consisted of a choice between Ginger Ale or Lime Soda



MOV Class Gets Into The Spirit(s)!

Presenter **Eleanor Weaver** gave the Romantic Comedy Movie class a real treat on February 11th. In order to set the ambiance of the movie, *Arthur*, she brought "drinks" and champagne glasses for our break just before her excellent presentation. We toast Eleanor for her enhancement to the MOV class!



From left: **Eleanor Weaver**, **Harriet Apsel**, **Ruth Hart** (hiding), **Dale Korman** (coordinator), **McNair Maxwell**, **Nancy Bell** (co-coord), **Maria Ruiz**, **Karen Marcus**, & **Jeanne Wilson** (Photograph taken by fellow classmate **Hal Hart**.)