



# OMNIOLORE NEWS



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November 2013

## DON'T MISS – IN THIS ISSUE

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## Who Are Omnilore's

### Members-at-Large

#### ... And What Do They Do?

by Bill Gargaro

At our recent Halloween Forum, a Board of Directors was elected and installed to guide our organization in the next Omnilore year (2013- 2014). All of the 2012-13 Board members are returning with the exception of a special trio, each of whom serves for only one year: the Members-at-Large. The Board would like to thank the three who served as Members-at-Large so well this past year: **Cindy Eggert, Cathy Gallipeau and Roger Peterson**, and welcome aboard those who will now replace them: **Leslie Back, Kate Nelson and Gary Nofziger**.

While it is surely clear to all what a president, secretary, etc. do, some of you might have questions regarding the members-at-large, such as how they are chosen and what their purpose and duties are. As the most recent past president and therefore current Nominating Committee chairman, I will address these questions in what follows:

The process of developing the Board of Directors slate, including the Members-at-Large, begins every summer with the formation of an *ad hoc* Nominating Committee. This committee consists of five members: a chairman (this year, myself as most recent past-president), another Board member, and three non-Board members.

The Board often "discovers" the three non-Board committee members during a brain-storming session. These three need to have been in Omnilore long enough to know a variety of our members and evaluate their participation in our organization in order to judge their suitability for serving on the Board. In general the committee looks for participants who are organized, responsible, and have a high level of enthusiasm for Omnilore and its goals. (These characteristics are, by the way, basically the same ones that we look for in the members-at-large nominees. The committee works to find suitable nominees for every position and to assure their willingness –and availability -- to serve.)

Following the selection process and your approval, the Members-at-Large join the Board at its monthly meetings to support the business of Omnilore in a variety of ways. They are full-fledged members of the Board, having a full vote on every motion the Board addresses. They have to weigh the issues as seriously as other Board members and vote accordingly; that is their first duty. This seems simple enough, but you might wonder whether this is all they do, and what the long-term value of these positions is.

The answer to the first question is that they are encouraged to join standing committees, like Curriculum or Membership, or to accept special tasks, like arranging for the AED (Automated External Defibrillator) training classes that we sponsor. This is of mutual benefit to Omnilore and to the members' understanding of what makes us tick at the business level.

*Continued on Page 2*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Elected Officers

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| President           | Howard Korman       |
| VP - Academics      | Janet Brown         |
| VP - Administration | Kathleen Fitzgerald |
| Treasurer           | Jim Slattery        |
| Recording Secretary | Art Irizarry        |
| Past President      | Bill Gargaro        |
| Member-at-Large     | Leslie Back         |
| Member-at-Large     | Kate Nelson         |
| Member-at-Large     | Gary Nofziger       |

### Standing Committee Chairs

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Membership       | Linda Jenson   |
| Forum            | Lori Geittmann |
| Communications   | Mary Golob     |
| Curriculum       | Rick Spillane  |
| Head Coordinator | Norman Morris  |

### Appointees

|                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| New Member Liaison   | Edith Garvey    |
| Registrar            | JoAnna Kerrigan |
| SDG Scheduling       | Ruth & Hal Hart |
| Office Manager       | Carol Johnson   |
| Room Scheduling      | Lynn Taber      |
| Laptop Administrator | Rick Spillane   |
| Equipment            | Hal Hart        |
| Supplies             | Andrea Gargaro  |
| Keys                 | Marilyn Landau  |
| Webmaster            | Hal Hart        |

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.

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

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| Editor       | Mary Golob    |
| Staff Member | Carol Kerster |

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

by Howard Korman

I want to welcome all of our members, especially our new members, to the 2013-2014 Omnilore year. I hope you all are enjoying your fall classes and are excited about our offerings for the spring trimester. Although difficult to believe, it has been a year since I had the honor of becoming president of Omnilore and wrote my first column for the Newsletter. The year was very rewarding for me and for that I wish to thank the general membership and my fellow Board members.

Speaking for the new Board, I assure you that we will do our best to run our organization for the mutual benefit of all. We will continue to provide varied and interesting Study/Discussion Groups as well as supply our classrooms with appropriate and convenient equipment to support the S/DG presentations and discussions. I want to thank the departing Board members-at-large (**Cindy Eggert, Cathy Gallipeau, and Roger Peterson**) for their contributions during the past year.

As you know, Omnilore is part of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Cal State University, Dominguez Hills. All Omniloreans are members of OLLI at CSUDH, which is one of 117 OLLIs in the United States, serving a total of 86,000 seniors! Each of these OLLIs is associated with a college or university and each receives some of its funding from the Bernard Osher Foundation. Mr. Osher is a philanthropist who has made funding learning-in-retirement organizations a priority. In addition to providing funding for every OLLI, the Osher Foundation has established the OLLI National Resource Center at the University of Southern Maine to provide information and networking opportunities. The National Resource Center also publishes the annual OLLI Review, research articles from various OLLI groups, and other contributions from OLLI members (such as books, poetry, blogs, and videos). I encourage you to visit their website at <http://usm.maine.edu/olli/national/> for more

information. For example, you will find a map of the U.S. that shows where OLLI institutes are located and their websites. In addition, you will find tips on travel, newsletters, management documents, and more.



I hope you are taking advantage of the fall OLLI lectures in Carson, Manhattan Beach, and Torrance; the ones I have attended have been very worthwhile. And we have more coming this month of November, along with another series in the spring of 2014. You can find details in the fall OLLI catalog or on the CSUDH/OLLI website.

I also find it interesting that this year the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah is celebrated the same day as Thanksgiving and, since the next time this will happen is estimated to be 70,000 years from now, I urge all of you to reflect on and enjoy all aspects of this unusual coincidence.

So, here's to a wonderful holiday season for all...

*Continued from Page 1*

Next, the Board believes that members-at-large represent our investment in the future because it is often, though not exclusively, from among this group that our future leadership emerges. During their appointed year, they learn how our organization works, other Board members can assess their capabilities, and they become a great source of future Boards' higher-level officers. I recently expressed this last thought referring to them as a source of "new blood" for Omnilore leadership to Gary Nofziger, and he retorted that at his age it was hard to think of himself as "new blood!" I think most of us can relate to that sentiment, but we need to recall that keeping our minds and attitudes as fresh and new as possible is what Omnilore is really all about.

Finally, let me point out some recent successful outcomes of this process, namely that the last three most recent Omnilore past-presidents -- Rick Spillane, Ruth Hart and I -- all started our Board participation as members-at-large. Of course, numerous other positions, vice-presidents, treasurers, etc. also drew on the members-at-large resources. All in all, we think our "investment" in this group of Board members has been a winning strategy.



A fond farewell to last year's Members-at-Large: (upper left: Cindy Eggert, Roger Peterson and Cathy Gallipeau, below)

Say hello to our new Members-at-Large: Gary Nofziger, Kate Nelson and Leslie Back (below)



**OMNIOLORE PROFILE: Marilyn Landau - Key Omnilore Person**

*by Marion Smith*

Have you coordinated an Omnilore class? Yes? Well, then, chances are you've met Marilyn Landau since she is the person who distributes classroom keys to coordinators at the start of each term. Does your Omnilore class have an assigned text? Then maybe you haven't met Marilyn because she avoids Omnilore classes that rely on texts. (Well, actually, she loves Omnilore's short-story classes, and that's the one exception she makes to her rule of avoiding classes that have assigned texts.) For Marilyn, the joys of Omnilore reside in active discussions rather than presentations.

Before Marilyn became a key distributor, she was a public school educator who spent the last eight years of her career as a high school guidance counselor in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Raised in a suburb of Cleveland, Ohio, Marilyn earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education at Ohio State University. Moving to California in 1965, she went on to earn a master's in school counseling at the University of La Verne. Had she found any universities offering evening doctoral programs at the time, she would probably have earned a doctorate, too. She holds three teaching credentials: general elementary education (grades K-8), secondary education (through grade 12), and pupil personnel (through grade 14). She served on the California Teachers Association state board for nine years, and has also been active in the American Federation of Teachers.

Marilyn's first teaching job was in the Saugus area, and she lived in the San Fernando Valley for five years. After moving

to the South Bay, she taught elementary school (mainly grades 4-6) and then middle school math. After writing *Critical Thinking in Mathematics*, she was awarded a grant by the California Department of Education to continue her research and teaching. She never wanted to become a school administrator, but, oh, does she miss the students in her retirement. . . .

But now she's too busy to work. In addition to handing out keys for Omnilore, she plays bridge three times a week, and travels out of the country two or three times a year. This past summer, she visited Israel, as she has done several times. She is the [volunteer] gift shop manager and buyer for Congregation Ner Tamid in Rancho Palos Verdes. Her visits to Israel include meetings with vendors for the gift shop and get-togethers with close friends. And she describes herself as an opera buff and an inveterate reader.

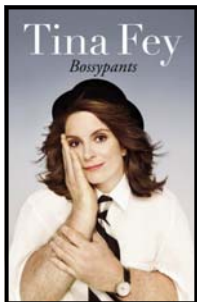
Introduced to Omnilore nine or ten years ago by long-time friend and Omnilorean Lori Geittmann, Marilyn enjoys classes on both art and social media, but her favorite focused on women artists. In addition, Marilyn has led a group of Omniloreans to the Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Oregon.



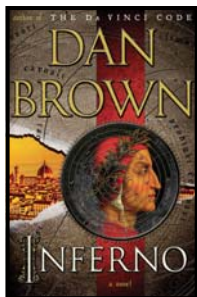
**Omnilore's Best-Sellers Special Interest Group**

*by Patricia Edie*

Do you enjoy reading and talking about a book with others who have read it? Then consider participating in our Best Sellers Special Interest Group. On the second Monday of each month, some 20+ members and guests meet in Room 8 of the Franklin Center from 11 am to 12:30 pm to discuss the book chosen for the month. We alternate each month between various works of fiction and non-fiction. The subject matter is varied and the discussion always animated! So that you have plenty of time to read the chosen books, here are the upcoming selections:



**November 11:** Non-Fiction  
*Bossypants*  
by Tina Fey



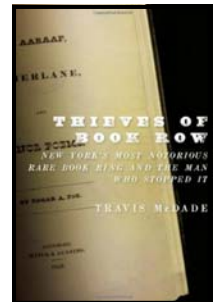
**December 9:** Fiction  
*The Inferno*  
by Dan Brown



**January 13:** Non-Fiction  
*The Worst Hard Time*  
by Timothy Egan



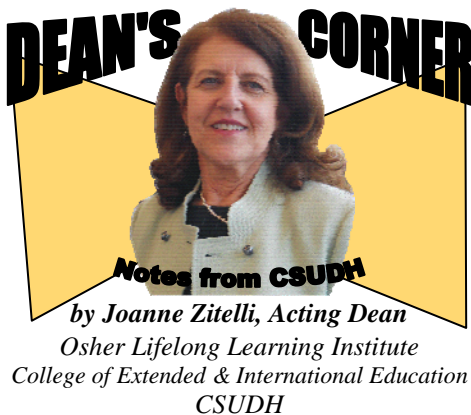
**February 10:** Fiction  
*Defending Jacob*  
by William Landay



**March 10:** Non-Fiction  
*Thieves of Book Row*  
by Travis McDade

As with any SIG, you need not register to participate...just show up on the date prepared to join in. Guests are always welcomed.





Sharing with OLLI/Omniole members news about important campus trends has been one of the functions of this column. The CSUDH community is currently witnessing a transformation of the University, as a result of increased enrollment tied to increased State funding, new faculty and new leadership.

In the College of Extended & International Education (CEIE) we are watching recruitment processes for the new Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost as well as the new permanent dean of

this college. With the appointment of our new President, Dr. Willie Hagan, and the retirement of several senior level executives, the campus is experiencing many new appointments to key university administrative spots, such as Chief Technology Officer and Vice President, Advancement.

CSUDH also hired 17 new, tenure-track faculty in 2012-2013 and 25 new faculty searches will be conducted in 2013-14. (To stay in touch with campus news and stories, log-on to Dominguez Dateline <http://www.csudhnews.com/>. Information about our new faculty is available at <http://www.csudhnews.com/2013/08/new-faculty-2013/> The University is in growth-and-building mode after experiencing budget woes inflicted by the recent State financial crisis.

By end of fall term, a new Provost will be named. He or she will be the chief academic officer on campus and head of the division in which our College is housed. College deans report directly to the Provost. Therefore, the newly appointed Provost should and will have an opportunity to weigh-in on finalists for the CEIE dean permanent position.

Part of the mission of extended education units in the California State University system is to generate revenue and leverage resources for the campus, so a successful Extended Education leader exhibits strong business skills, an entrepreneurial vision and a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities in higher education. (CSUDH was fortunate in having Dr. Margaret Gordon as Dean of Extended Education for 25 years. She embodied the right combination of characteristics, including being a forceful advocate for lifelong learning and learning in retirement.)

As finalists for the Extended Education dean's position are announced in early spring, I hope some of you will attend the open forum campus sessions in order to meet finalists and hear them discuss their qualifications and perspectives on extended education and CSUDH. I'll keep you informed about that schedule. A new dean of CEIE should be announced by April.

Best wishes for a happy Thanksgiving from the staff of Extended Education. Stay healthy, stay happy.



## More OLLI this Fall . . .

by *Jim Bouchard*

*Senior Program Development Specialist  
Coordinator, Lifelong Learning, OLLI at CSUDH*



Our fall OLLI lecture series has been well attended in Carson, Torrance, and Manhattan Beach. At some of the lectures we had over 70 OLLI members attending, and it's been good to see so many OLLI members from Omniole attending.

While each location has a different audience, I've noticed that more and more OLLI members are attending lectures in all three locations. And the feedback has been tremendous. Over and over, I've had people come up to me to say how much they are enjoying the series. And while not everyone agrees with viewpoints of some of the presenters, everyone is unanimous about the quality of the faculty members.

And while it's important to bring lectures out to the communities, it's equally important that OLLI members come to campus once or twice a semester to take advantage of the university resources. For example, we had our second OLLI Poetry Event in October, and the City of Manhattan Beach provided a bus to bring OLLI members to this event. The event was very moving as OLLI members who live throughout the university service area shared their original poems.

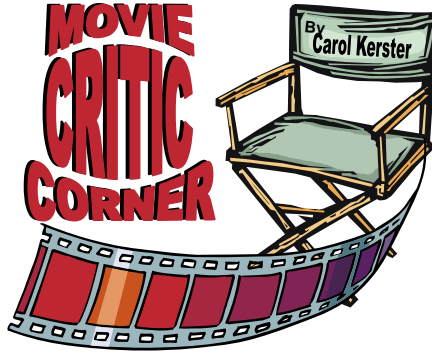
The next OLLI event on campus that you don't want to miss is the play "Noises Off." The play will be on Sunday, November 17. There will be an 11:30 a.m. lecture for OLLI members by the director of the play, followed by a 1 p.m. performance. You may reserve your tickets by calling the OLLI office at 310.243.3208, or by email at [olli@csudh.edu](mailto:olli@csudh.edu). You will be put on a list and pay at the door.

There will also be an OLLI Holiday Celebration in the Extended Education auditorium on Thursday, December 5. This event is free to OLLI members, so make sure that you register for this by calling the Extended Ed registration office at 310.243.3741 so that we know how many people are attending.

And a final bit of information--the spring OLLI catalog will be mailed sometime in December. Have a Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!

Have a happy, healthy holiday season!

“Bittersweet,” according to Webster, means to combine pleasure and sadness. I can’t imagine a better example of that than the film *Enough Said* starring the late James Gandolfini and Julia Louis-Dreyfus. On the surface, their story is familiar: two single adults searching for love meet, have some experiences and come to a decision. Nothing too unusual, except that two well-known actors, a super supporting cast, really smart, funny dialogue and a director, Nicole Holofcener, who clearly knew what she was doing, have made it extraordinary entertainment.



Albert (Gandolfini) is a laid-back kind of guy: funny, and attractive in a clean but messy way (his multiple toothbrushes are explained as “friends”). Eva (Dreyfus) is a slightly compulsive, slightly over-anxious-to-please masseuse: she “schleps” her massage table up the stairs while her muscular, young male client watches. As Eva and Albert get to know each other, they encounter real life situations. Friends of Albert -- Sarah and Will (well played by Toni Collette and Ben Falcone) -- give advice while dealing with their own issues; Albert’s and Eva’s daughters each leave home for college. And Eva discovers that the ex-husband whom her client -- chatty, catty Marianne (played to exquisite self-obsession by Catherine Keener) -- has been blabbing about in nasty terms, is Albert. This leads the two, who were on the edge of falling in love, to go their separate ways. For those of you who have not yet seen the film, I won’t spoil the ending. Just know, it’s worth discovering for yourself.

A final note: while watching this movie, it was hard not to be aware of the recent, untimely death of James Gandolfini, the quintessential Godfather in *The Sopranos*. Seeing him as such a genuinely decent man -- a mensch, if you will -- makes his loss even sadder. Enough said. . . .

There are surely parents who do not agree with the choices their children make. Most of them do not let the disagreements become so poisonous that their relationships, and their lives, are destroyed. The vitriol that is heaped upon the head of

Martin, the adult son of Paul de Marseul, owner of a prestigious vineyard, is the primary motive that drives the engrossing and disturbing film, *You Will Be My Son*.

Paul, played by the French actor Niels Arestrup, never misses an opportunity to criticize and humiliate his university-educated son, played with heart-breaking tolerance by Lorant Deutsch. Although Martin does work for his father, he is clearly not the son Paul wants as inheritor of the business he inherited from his own father. The arrival of good-looking, confident Phillippe, son of the dying Francois, Paul’s estate manager, only intensifies Paul’s displeasure with Martin, whose own insecurities intensify accordingly.

The ensuing favoritism Paul heaps on Phillippe (played by Nicolas Bridet with a kind of innocent bravado), gives the movie its ominous title. That, and the growing helplessness of Martin, despite his young wife’s attempts to bolster him, and the belated awareness of Francois that Paul was no more a real friend to him than he was a real father to Martin, has all the makings of a sentimental melodrama. The actors, masters of their craft, and director Jacques Audiard, who was also co-writer and co-producer with Gilles Legrand, keep that from being the case. You may even have the urge to do violence to Paul...I did. Better, just see the film and learn something.



**Computer Talks Is Taking  
November & December Off Due to the Proximity  
of the Holidays!  
Look for Us in The January-February 2014 Newsletter**



### In Memoriam—Marjory Jensen

A 10-year member of Omnilore, Marjory Jensen died September 6 from complications of Alzheimer’s disease at the age of 77. She is survived by her son, Eric, and two sisters.

Born in West Virginia, Marjory moved to New Mexico at the age of eight because her father, who was in the military, was involved with the Manhattan Project there. After marrying a military man, she lived in Korea and then moved to Southern California. She later taught for more than 30 years, retiring from Dodson Middle School in San Pedro as a math teacher.

In retirement, Marjory was a weekly volunteer at House of Hope, also in San Pedro, teaching life skills to women in recovery there. In Omnilore, she tended toward classes in literature, particularly poetry, and often served as class coordinator.

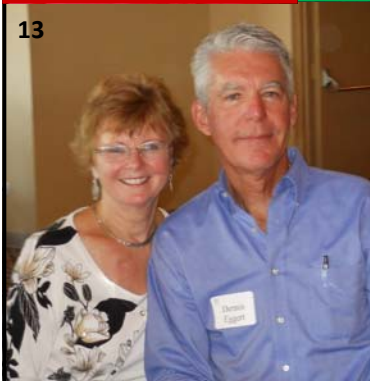




# Omnilore's 22nd Annual Meeting & Luncheon



1. Brenda Blow, OLLI at CSUDH; 2. Berthe & Jim Slattery; 3. Lori Geittmann, Forum Chair & hardboiled lady detective; 4. Father Charles Golden; 5. Howard Korman, President & The Flash; 6. Nelda Trent (guest) with Sally Downie; 7. Janet Hironaka; 8. Muriel Blatt; 9. Tom Vincent; 10. Jay & Patricia Edie; 11. Merle Culbert with Ellen Bradford; 12. Mary & Daniel Gluck; 13. Cindy & Dennis Eggert; 14. Diana & Burt Cutler; 15. Gene Mick; 16. Linda Levie Friedman, literary publicist (guest) and Linda Jensen.





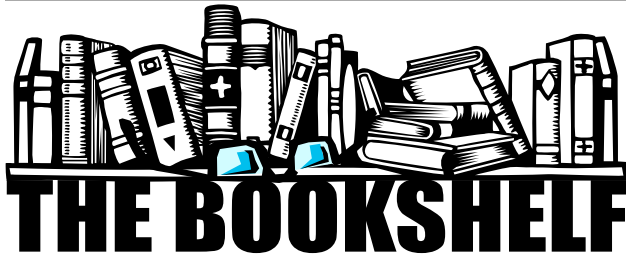






1. Jean de Angelis; 2. Dick & Dale Johnson; 3. Luke & Lucia Dzwonczyk; 4. Vickie Volchok; 5. Barbara Case; 6. Greeters Anne Faass, Helen Leven, Irma Cohen and Nancy Shannon (standing) ; 7. Janet & Larry Brown; 8. Mel Schrier; 9. Gail Ruder; 10. Midge Solomon and Zelda Green; 11. Margaret Thelan and Maggie Wilkinson; 12. Sandy Tofflemire-Gunn (guest) with Mary Louise Mavian; 13. Mark Pepys and Roger Schamp; 14. Joann Bailey with Bea Walker (guest); 15. Leslie Schettler flanked by Anne & Ray Destabelle; 16. Gretchen & Gary Marlotte; 17. Lynn Anderson, Cordelia Hwang and Ruth Bloland; 18. Gloria Martin and Carol Wingate.





These proposals for late-fall reading range from history, human behavior and thriller—take your pick and enjoy a wide variety of stories!

**The Social Animal** by **David Brooks**. Brooks wrote a wide ranging book on the subject of human behavior. He quotes extensively from scholarly research to back up his positions. Brooks has also managed to turn what might be pretty dry and academic into an interesting story by weaving it into a fictional life story. Well worth the read for insights into your own and others' personalities.

**Scorpions** by **Noah Feldman** tells the story of Franklin Roosevelt and his influ-

ence on the U.S. Supreme Court by the men he appointed as justices.

Roosevelt surrounded himself with men who were brilliant and loyal to FDR. Men such as Felix Frankfurter, Hugo Black, Robert Jackson and William

O. Douglas with progressive ideas shaped our country during the tumultuous years of the Great Depression and World War II, the years of Roosevelt's presidency. Those who lived during that time will enjoy the reminders of the events, and Baby Boomers will learn of the Greatest Generation and the changes in the direction of our country affecting our lives today.

Remember the good ol' days when Ian Fleming introduced us to 007 – James Bond? When we lost Fleming in 1964, several authors pinched-hit Bond stories, the most memorable being **John Gard-**

**ner**, who picked up the baton and carried on the series for 15 years. Recently, **Jeffery Deaver** wrote another Bond novel, **Carte Blanche**, which has all the old timers—"M," Money Penny, Tanner—but tells the story in real time, complete with cell phones, technical gizmos and satellites. The story is as fast moving, engrossing and thrilling as any prior Bond escapade. However, with James apparently in his thirties and in his prime, a little voice in some part of my brain says, "Didn't *Dr. No* debut in 1962?"

*Book suggestions from Omniloreans make this column work. Thanks to Dan Stern and Edith Garvey for contributing to this month's list. Please send your titles, with author's name and a brief description, to Johan (johansmith@ca.rr.com). Please put "Omnilore Books" as the subject of your email. We look forward to hearing from you.*



**Omnilore's new Board of Directors for 2013-2014:**

Kate Nelson, Member-at-Large; Howard Korman, President; Janet Brown, VP-Academics; Kathleen Fitzgerald, VP-Administration; Art Irizarry, Recording Secretary; Jim Slattery, Treasurer, and Gary Nofziger, Member-at-Large. Leslie Back, Member-at-Large, was not able to attend.

At right: Howard Korman with our speaker, Denise Hamilton



OMNILORE  
CALENDAR  
2013

- November**
- 3 Return to Standard Time
  - 5 Election Day
  - 11 Veterans Day
  - 11 Best Sellers Book Group—11 a.m. - 12.30 p.m., Room 8
  - 14 Board of Directors Meeting—12 Noon - 2 p.m., Room 7
  - 15 Hiking Group—10 a.m. - 12 Noon
  - 19 Introducing Omnilore Meeting—10 a.m. - 12 Noon, Room 7
  - 28 Thanksgiving
  - 28 Hanukkah
- December**
- 9 Best Sellers Book Group—11 a.m. - 12.30 p.m., Room 8
  - 12 Board of Directors Meeting— 12 Noon - 2 p.m., Room 7
  - 15 Input Deadline, January-February 2014 Newsletter
  - 20 Hiking Group Holiday Hike & Lunch—10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
  - 25 Christmas Day

*Happy*  
**HANUKKAH**  
**CHRISTMAS**  
*Merry*



**2014 Forums**  
Winter—January 30th  
Spring—April 30th  
Summer—July 31st  
Annual Mtg.—October 31st

**IMPORTANT:**  
Calendar changes and additions  
are scheduled with Lynn Taber  
(310) 831-4768—[johnlynntaber@gmail.com](mailto:johnlynntaber@gmail.com)



**Costume  
Winners:**

**Jim & Berthe  
Slattery**

**Charles Golden**

**Jean Stephenson**

Prizes were  
awarded based  
on  
originality  
and  
creativity.