



OMNIOLORE NEWS



Volume 20 Issue 5

www.omnilore.org

September 2011

OLLI AT 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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Elected Officers

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| President | Bill Gargaro |
| VP - Academics | Jade Suzanne Neely |
| VP - Administration | Dennis Eggert |
| Treasurer | Steve Miller |
| Recording Secretary | Rosa Lee Saikley |
| Past President | Ruth Hart |
| Member-at-Large | Linda Jenson |
| Member-at-Large | Rich Mansfield |
| Member-at-Large | Jim Slattery |

Standing Committee Chairs

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Membership | Howard Korman |
| Forum | Diana Cutler |
| Communications | Mary Golob |
| Curriculum | Rick Spillane |
| Head Coordinator | Norman Morris |

Appointees

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| New Member Liaison | Edith Garvey |
| Registrar | Dennis Goodno |
| Archivist | Vacant |
| Office Manager | Carol Johnson |
| Room Scheduling | Lynn Taber |
| Laptop Administrator | Rick Spillane |
| Equipment | Hal Hart |
| Supplies | Andrea Gargaro |
| Keys | Marilyn Landau |
| Web masters | Hal Hart Dennis Goodno |

Omnilore 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

Cuba: The Culture, Life and Art of a Neighbor

by Carol Kerster

I confess that my knowledge of Cuba and Cubans is based largely on what I remember of Lucy's musician husband, Desi Arnaz, and he was just kind of goofy. I'm delighted to say that I believe this decidedly narrow view is about to change. And if any of you have similarly limited knowledge of our 90 mile-away neighbor, you are likely to undergo a change as well.



Mary Drobny

What better time and place for transformation than Omnilore's October Annual General Meeting and Halloween party? And what better person to elicit this change than a certified expert on the Culture, Life and Art of Cuba, Mary Drobny, our speaker for this event?

Mary's credentials are impressively wide-ranging: A B.A. and M.A. in art history/art education, and a Certificate in Museum Studies from California State University Long Beach, were followed by teaching continuously since 1991 at colleges in Southern California. For 13 years she has lectured and directed tours for LACMA and served as Director of Programs for the Palos Verdes Art Center, organizing art trips throughout the U.S. and Cuba. Currently, besides her college teaching, she has organized tours to South America, Central America, and most especially to Cuba, where she has led more than 65 trips!

Mary considers Cuba a "hidden gem" despite the U.S. embargo of the last 50 years. The island and its people have maintained a unique identity that is rich, fertile and thriving. For a city first established in 1519, with little added since 1959, Havana is especially amazing: it has four centuries of architecture within a few blocks. It is one of six UNESCO world heritage sites on the island which, along with a collection of images, some dating from 1959, will be viewed in our speaker's presentation.

Just preparing this column about Cuba has certainly whetted my appetite for more information. And because this will all be happening at our annual Halloween OMNI-BOO, I look forward to satisfying my usual appetite as well, with an especially tasty and appropriate lunch. The cost for lunch remains \$18.00 (vegetarian plates upon request). Of course, costumes are definitely encouraged, and a Cuban theme, while not mandatory, certainly offers new challenges to those so inclined. Naturally, prizes will be awarded for the three best costumes, selected by a panel of experts!

During this meeting annual reports and election of officers will take place. You all know that registration for this October 31 gala can be done using the form on page 7 of this Newsletter or -- you guessed it -- the orange/black flyer which will be sent, not by broomstick, but by regular mail in early October. With this annual meeting Omnilore again presents its members the unique experience of learning, socializing, and enjoying all at the same time. See you there!

DON'T MISS -- IN THIS ISSUE

- ◆ President's Message Page 2
- ◆ Geocaching Page 4
- ◆ Dean's Corner Page 5
- ◆ Fall Lecture Series Page 6
- ◆ The Bookshelf Page 7



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT*by Bill Gargaro*

The fall class schedules and rosters have been finalized, and I hope we all were able to get into the classes we wanted. Over the next year, I think it will be especially important to try to take one or more subjects that will help guide and enlighten our thinking for next year's elections. It certainly seems to me that 2012 will present us with one of the most memorable sets of differences between the philosophies of the two major parties since I began voting. I know this sometimes gets said almost by rote by the pundits for every general election, but this one truly promises not to be a "Tweedledum vs. Tweedledee" choice regarding the impacts on major, vital facets of our society: health care, taxes, social welfare, budget deficits, troop withdrawals, etc. I am just trying to point out that our Omnilore curriculum is well developed and thought out; it always has components that encompass elements of government, economics, foreign affairs, social subjects and other related material. I find one of the great things about Omnilore is that it not only contributes to our own mental maintenance but also

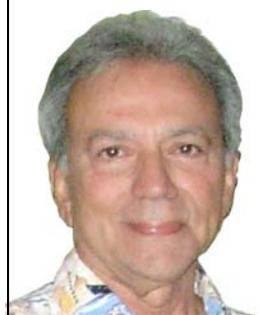
allows, even promotes, the development of our sense of good citizenship and its actual realization. The stakes seem especially high this next go-around.

At the next Forum, in October, we will have our annual meeting of the membership. At that meeting you will be asked to approve a slate of Board of Directors candidates for next year. (The term of an officer on the board is one year.) Let's remember that we are an entirely volunteer organization and that includes not only members of the Board but the committees as well. **Ruth Hart** and the Nominating Committee are actively looking for candidates for the openings for next year. If you are asked to fill one of the openings in these organizational groups, please give the request your serious consideration. Without willing volunteers, Omnilore can't function.

This is the last Newsletter for our yearly cycle. Thank you for allowing me to bring some of my thoughts about Omnilore to you in the president's column. I hope both that I have brought you information about Omnilore's

operations and aspirations, and that we will all have another great year of study and idea exchanges at Franklin Center.

As I reported in the last edition, over half of you have signed up to forego delivery of the Newsletter through the regular mail, and instead choose to read it online at our great website. The rest of you are always invited to join in this way of viewing it; please inform Johan Smith if that is your preference so we can stop sending you a paper copy. In the near future we plan to attempt to expand our use of electronic delivery, via the Omnilore website, of the information about course offerings from which you choose your class preferences for the spring trimester. We hope to reduce mailings of that material in the same way we did the Newsletter. As before, this will be a strictly voluntary activity, and a paper copy will be mailed to you via the USPS if you prefer that method of receiving course descriptions and voting material.

**PRESENTATIONS 101: THE WORKSHOP****Thursday - September 15th****12 Noon - Room 7***by Jade Suzanne Neely*

Are you a new member of Omnilore and a little uncertain about your first presentation? Perhaps you have been a member of Omnilore for a while and want to polish your presentation skills. In either case, we have some help for you. On Thursday, September 15th from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m., you are invited to join **Presentations 101: The Workshop**. Need help on selecting a topic? Don't know what audio/visual equipment is available? Not sure how to schedule your class presentation? Don't know how to operate the audio/visual equipment? The Workshop will answer these questions and any others you may have relating to one of the most enjoyable elements of the Omnilore experience. It's all about making our presentations better and enjoying livelier discussions.

If you can't attend the Workshop and want some help pulling your presentation together, check the list of Presentation Mentors on the bulletin boards. You will find the names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of Omnilore members who have volunteered to work with other members on preparing presentations. Just give one of them a call or fire off an e-mail to make arrangements for advice and perhaps to make a new friend.

Presentations 101: The Workshop Thursday, Sept. 15th at 12:00 noon, Room 7, Franklin Center-Redondo Beach

The Next **INTRODUCING OMNIOLORE MEETINGS:** **Tues. Oct. 18th - Room 7**
Help Spread the Word! **Tues. Nov. 29th - Room 7**



Ad Hoc Committee Seeks Ideas for Using Surplus Funds

by Steve Miller, Treasurer

At the last Board of Directors meeting in August an *ad hoc* committee was established to recommend ideas for additional spending outside our regular budget.

Last year Omnimore had a surplus of funds remaining from unspent prior years' dues, and we used some of it to purchase two up-to-date presenters, a Mac laptop stored in Room 7 for use in members' presentations, a printer/fax, also in Room 7, and a new computer and printer for Johan, our administrative assistant. We also used some of the surplus to encourage members to attend the annual Forum meeting by underwriting part of the lunch cost for them.

The *ad hoc* committee is now soliciting ideas from the entire membership for similar uses of surplus funds this year. Suggestions may be directed to any member of the *ad hoc* committee: **Dennis Eggert, Hal Hart, Jim Slattery, Rick Spillane** or myself.

This month's column is primarily the work of two Omnimoreans who generously submitted reviews of films they liked. I appreciate their contributions, and hope you do too. I also hope they will inspire you to share your words about any films you see, whether you liked them or not.

First, from Marilou Lieman, who recommends *A Better Life*: "This is the story of a Mexican illegal immigrant who is a father, and the relationship between him and his son, an American citizen. [But] it is so much more than this. It is a human movie which captures not only the struggle between these two characters but also the father's search for 'a better life' for his son, [and] it does not offer a judgment or solution. The cinematography is excellent and the setting is Los Angeles. At the end of the movie, the audience stood up and applauded."

Marilou also recommends a documentary, on the life of the Jewish writer, Sholem Aleichem. It's called *Laughing in the Darkness* and it opened in L.A. on August 17.

The following reviews were written by Nancy Shannon. Of *Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work*, she says, "It might not appeal to all, but is surprisingly interesting. She is one gutsy cookie and a pioneer in her field."

Tabloid is not for the faint of heart. But for those who dare, it is an intriguing story. The director, Errol Morris, also did the Academy Award-winning *The Fog of War*, a profile of former Defense Secretary Robert McNamara and the Vietnam War. The story of *Tabloid* follows the "salacious adventures of a beauty queen with an IQ of 168 on a crusade of love across the globe, through unmentionable experiences, until her dream is finally realized."

The subject of *Genius Within: The Inner Life of Glenn Gould* is called by Mark Swed, *L.A. Times* music critic, "The most imaginative pianist of modern times." And for serious music fans, his thoughts on music, art, society, love and life are a must see.

The Wildest Dream: Conquest of Everest intersects the lives of George Mallory, the first man to attempt the summit of Everest, and Conrad Anker, who discovered Mallory's frozen remains 75 years later. This sounds like another "must see" for anyone who has ever dreamed of reaching the heights of a perilous mountain, or ever wondered how it could be filmed, if it should occur. The narrators bear mention: Liam Neeson, Ralph Fiennes, Natasha Richardson, Alan Rickman and Hugh Dancy.

I have to include one film I did see this summer, which not only surprised me, but kept me enthralled by its incredible star character*, and unfamiliarity of subject matter. *Buck* is the story of a real-life horse whisperer, who through his talent, persistence and seemingly supernatural skill, travels world-wide, practicing a profession not frequently discussed, except perhaps among horse people. Having survived a classic abusive childhood, and enduring tough apprenticeships, Buck Brannaman has become a legend. Using instinct rather than punishment, he elicits the very finest qualities of the animals that owners have been unable to handle. That the owners also evolve into better human beings is clear, and is evidence that there are lessons for all of us in what appears to be a movie for horse lovers only.

*This is true in spite of a brief appearance by Robert Redford, who directed and starred in *The Horse Whisperer* (1998), which was great fun to watch again after seeing *Buck*.



October Date Set for New "Introducing Omnimore" Meeting

by
Howard
Korman



The Membership Committee has scheduled an "Introducing Omnimore" meeting for prospective members who may want to join *Omnimore* for the Spring trimester. The date is:

**Tuesday, October 18th, 10 a.m.
at the Franklin Center in Room 7**

Attendance at an "Introducing Omnimore" meeting is mandatory for new members, so please tell anyone you know who might be interested about this upcoming date. 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!



Geocaching.com

The Basics, Accounts, Finds, Hides, and Hints

by Hal Hart - Hal.Hart@ACM.ORG



In the July-August *Omnilore News* I described how Omnilore – through the Hiking/Walking Group -- introduced Ruth and me to geocaching, an ideal activity for our retirement as it combines modest physical activity with an intellectual twist. The article also included our invitation to Omniloreans to join us in learning about and playing the game, particularly on selected future Hiking/Walking Group outings. The next Group geocaching-centric walk will be held October 21. (See the announcement elsewhere in this Newsletter or on the website, Omnilore.org.) This article provides more information and hints for those who want to check out geocaching on their own.

Geocaching.com: First, almost everything there is to know can be found at the official Geocaching website. There's even a two-minute introductory video linked to the homepage. Really, the website says it all better than I can, but I include here selected geocaching basics that hopefully will be ticklers to get more Omniloreans involved.

What Is a "Geocache"? Most of the 1.5 million geocaches are hidden watertight containers, ranging in size from barely bigger than a fingernail to Tupperware or ammunition cans with maybe half a cubic foot of space. Most require short-to-medium hikes from nearby parking, but quite a few are called "*quick park-and-grabs*." Some caches are magnetized so they can be affixed to permanent metal posts, signs, utility boxes, etc. Almost all have a sheet of paper inside for finders to log their visit.

The game seems to keep expanding with new twists such as puzzle caches, multi-caches (*some clue at the coordinates leads to other coordinates*), virtual caches, and earth caches. Virtual caches require submitting a picture to prove you found a location such as a volcano or the MGM lion at the coordinates, and earth caches require learning local geoscience factoids to solve the find. So, there's always something new to learn and try.

"Trackables": Some of the larger caches contain tradable trinkets and souvenirs, including "trackables," which finders are encouraged to pick up at one location and then carry to another.

Memberships and Searching for Geocaches: Players are required to set up a free membership account at Geocaching.com in order to play. New members receive a free month of Premium status, which allows them to see more caches and access more information on the website; for just \$30 annually you can continue your Premium membership.

Members go to the website and enter addresses or other location coordinates to learn about hidden geocaches near that location. With each listed geocache, you get GPS Latitude/Longitude coordinates for its location, an indication of the size of the cache, difficulty of both the terrain and the "hide,"

and a description of the cache by the cache owner – which may only talk about the area and be totally unhelpful in finding the cache. You also have an opportunity to view comments (*which may be unhelpful, somewhat helpful, or even "spoilers" that have made the find too easy*) left by those who previously hunted for the cache. And, there's a link to a Google map of the location. A GPS is only accurate to within about 10 feet, and sometimes the readings jump around due to interference. So, coupled with these various challenges, "making a grab" might take anywhere from seconds to half an hour or more of looking after reaching Ground Zero.

Logging "Finds": After finding a cache, you log the "Find" in your account on line. You can also log a "DNF" (Did Not Find) note that a cache needs maintenance (e.g., log sheet is full, or water has gotten in), or a suggestion (for improvement) or your suspicion that the cache has been stolen. Every logged entry requires that a comment be added. Some finders and DNFers write detailed stories, while others just write "TFTC" (Thanks for the Cache), or "TNLN" (Took Nothing, Left Nothing) in cases when the cache can hold trackables or trinkets. Trackable drops and removals are logged as an adjunct to cache finds. Players earn "virtual awards" for various accomplishments, e.g., finding 10 or 100 caches, or a personal first find in a new state or country. One other popular geocaching acronym often written in cache descriptions is "CITO" (Cache In, Trash Out), as encouragement to be environmentally friendly.

Each member's website account maintains a large set of statistics about the member's geocaching experience. For example, our account tells us we have made 266 finds since registering in March; as of this writing we have a current streak of 103 consecutive days with at least one find; 13 days was our longest streak without a find, May was our best month (106 finds), and nearly 50 percent of our finds were between 2500 and 5000 miles from our home (*the vast majority, believe it or not, in Rhode Island!*).

Cache "Hides": After experience with looking for caches, some geocachers go the next step: They design and hide a cache, capture its coordinates, and post it to the part of the website that is searchable by registered geocachers. Most caches have descriptive or clever names, in addition to an ID assigned by the geocaching website. Hides are supposed to be on public property but enough out of the way that non-players do not see you looking for or replacing a cache. No geocache may be within a tenth of a mile of any other, and the website checks a new location against the coordinates of existing caches before entering a new one into the registry.

"Geosense": Players talk of developing "geosense," the intuition to focus on likely hiding places, or anything out of the ordinary, which may be a clue. In our experience, common hiding techniques include:

Continued on Page 5

Geocaching.com

Continued from Page 4

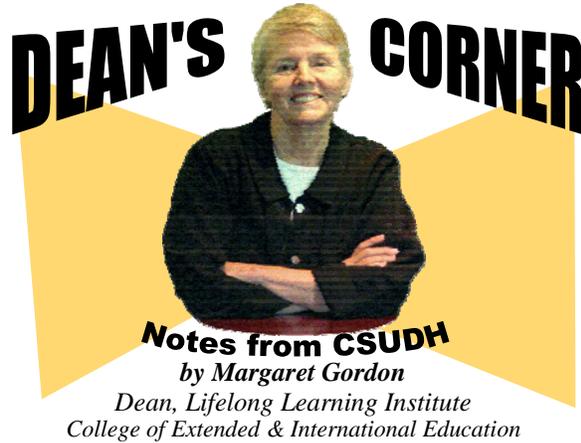
- ◆ magnetized containers hidden under mailboxes or utility boxes or on the backs of poles
- ◆ camouflaging containers to blend in with rocks or tree branches
- ◆ caches angled down inside metal fence posts or inside the back-side hollows on roadside guard-rails, and
- ◆ Lamppost caches concealed under the square metal cover at the bottom of many lampposts. (*Did you know those covers, called "skirts," are almost never bolted down?*)

On the other hand, some hiding places we've discovered are very clever. Among the best we've seen are inside a hollowed-out pinecone (*almost in the middle of Hawthorne Blvd., near Sepulveda!*), under a large piece of bark on a shaggy tree with magnets to hold the bark in place, disguised as rebar in the cement block at the front of a parking space, and inside a vertical hole requiring tweezers or a long bolt or screwdriver to catch its magnetized end. Wily geocachers carry various "TOT" (Tools of the Trade) just for this last type of cache.

"Muggles": Many cache descriptions warn that non-geocachers (muggles) may be nearby and players should guard against the risk that caches will be taken maliciously or by innocent non-gamers who stumble across an interesting container. We found a cache recently five feet off the sidewalk on the Strip in Las Vegas, where the cache owner had stated that dozens or hundreds of muggles would be going by as we extracted the cache, and not one would notice us. He was absolutely right; it's true - *what happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas!* But clearly Vegas is the exception, so we're very careful in urban and other crowded areas.

Crystal-Ball Gazing the Future of Geocaching: We find it hard to believe geocaching has been going on for 10 years now and we just discovered it this year. And, that we have run into other geocachers during only three (1 percent) of our searches. We predict that within five to 10 years, this activity will become well known and running into fellow geocachers will be commonplace. The land surface of the earth will hold about *6 billion* geocaches (*ha ha*), and I predict we won't find them all even as we step up our daily exercise and try to keep that streak going.

Omniole Geocaching Opportunity: Ruth and I are planning the October 21 event of the Omniole Hiking/Walking Club to be a modest hike on a route in Palos Verdes populated with several geocaches. We will let fellow hikers use our geocaching GPS and teach all interested how to find these caches. Look for an email in early October with hike details.



Yes, this is our annual "welcome to the new academic year at CSUDH" message. Kick-off events for 2011-2012 began August 22 with the fall convocation address given by President Mildred García. She welcomed the campus community and spoke of building on the campus' accomplishments last year.

The accomplishments were presented in a lively PowerPoint presentation entitled "2010-2011 Points of Pride." This was produced for the convocation by staff in CEE's Center for Mediated Instruction and Distance Learning. You can view the presentation on YouTube <http://youtu.be/iOyeqP4Sido>, and read a *Dominguez Dateline* article on the convocation at:

<http://www.csudhnews.com/2011/08/fall-convocation>.

CSUDH Interim Provost Dr. Mitch Maki hosted a Division of Academic Affairs luncheon and talk with faculty and staff. CEE also held its annual breakfast and for the first time OLLI members participated. Bill Gargaro, Jacqui Stewart and Marion Smith represented the OLLI/Omniole program. Topics included the college's budget and strategic goals for the campus and for CEE for 2011-2012. High on the list of priorities for CSUDH are enhancing its excellent teaching and learning environment and promoting a culture of customer service in all areas of the campus.

The 2011-2012 college year presents challenges as well for the CSU. Although CSUDH's enrollment has grown to over 13,500 students, further cuts of approximately \$2.5 million in state funding to the campus budget will likely occur this year. The College of Extended & International Education plays an important role in helping the campus meet its goals in several ways, for example, providing students with access to university courses and degrees through special sessions programs as well as by contributing resources to academic affairs.

For more on CEE activities, please take a look at the monthly CEE Newsletter available at <http://www.csudh.edu/ee/EENewsletterJuly2011.pdf> and the International Education Center Newsletter (<http://www.csudh.edu/iec/>).

Friendly reminder to OLLI members: on September 29, Thursday, 6:30- 8:00 pm, Gavita Ramdas, noted expert on social entrepreneurship, development, women's leadership, education, health, and philanthropy, speaks in the University Theatre (<http://csudh.edu/president/lectureseries.shtml>). It should be an inspiring evening.

We look forward to seeing you throughout the year on campus at OLLI and campus events.



Fall 2011 – OLLI at CSUDH

by *Jim Bouchard*

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



The OLLI Curriculum Committee has been busy this summer scheduling a number of exciting OLLI lectures, courses, discussion groups, computer workshops and field trips for the fall 2011 semester.

Some of the highlights include...

- ◆ The **Osher Lecture Series “Arab Spring”** which starts on Wednesday, September 21 at 10am with “An Overview of the Arab Spring” presented by Dr. Hamoud Salhi, Associate Professor, CSUDH Political Science & Economics Department.
- ◆ The second lecture of the series, **“Egypt: Political, Academic and Scientific Impact – within an historical perspective”** on October 5 will feature His Excellency Mohamed Samir Helmy, Consul, Consulate General of Egypt in Los Angeles, Diplomat, and Egyptologist who will be presenting with Dr. Amer El-Ahraf, Emeritus Professor.
- ◆ **“The Africana Religions Lecture Series”** will be presented by Dr. Salim Faraji, Associate Professor, Africana Studies. The first of three presentations will be on Friday, October 14 at 1pm. Dr. Faraji presented the first presentation for Black History Month last February and is back by popular demand.
- ◆ Two DVD discussion groups **“Lost Christianities: Christian Scriptures and the Battles over Authentication,”** facilitated by Mary J. Cruise, DNSc., Emeritus Faculty, and **“Chaos,”** facilitated by Jeffrey Jones, OLLI Member and retired Aerospace employee, will begin September 8 and September 9 respectively. If you miss the first couple of classes, you can still join it at any time.
- ◆ **“Peoples of the South Bay Area Series”** continues with Tongans in the South Bay, Native Americans in the South Bay and Croatians in San Pedro. The series begins on September 27.

A number of courses will continue such as **“Living Well for Older Adults Health Series”** (starting October 6 at 1:30 pm), **“Personal Finance and Retirement”** (starting October 6 at 3:30pm), and several computer courses, both Macintosh and PC.

There are several more courses and I encourage you to review the OLLI catalog that you have received, or check the OLLI website at www.csudh.edu/olli.

I hope everyone has a great semester!

OLLI Announces Their Fall 2011 Lecture Series: *The Arab Spring*

Starting in December 2010, demonstrations have rocked the nations of the Middle East. Starting with Egypt and Tunisia, a sustained series of rallies, sometimes spurred by technologies such as Twitter and Facebook, have impacted these nations’ societies. This series will explore what happened leading up to these events, and presenters will speculate about the future of this vital region. Here are the five lectures planned, all to be held in the Extended Education Auditorium, EE-1213:

An Overview of the Arab Spring

Wednesday, September 21st—10 a.m. - Noon

Hamoud Salhi, Ph.D., Associate Professor, CSUDH Political Science & Economics Department

Egypt: Political, Academic and Scientific Impact – within an historical perspective

Wednesday, October 5th—10 a.m. - Noon

Historical and Political Perspectives:

His Excellency Mohamed Samir Helmy, Consul, Consulate General of Egypt in Los Angeles, Diplomat, and Egyptologist

Academic and Scientific Impact:

Amer El-Ahraf, Emeritus Professor, College of Professional Studies

The Role of Islamic Organizations in the Arab Spring

Wednesday, October 19th—10 a.m. - Noon

Clarence “Gus” Martin, Ph.D., Associate Vice President for Faculty Affairs

Labor and Economics of the Middle East

Wednesday, November 2nd—10 a.m. - Noon

Theodore Byrne, Assistant Professor, Public Administration Department

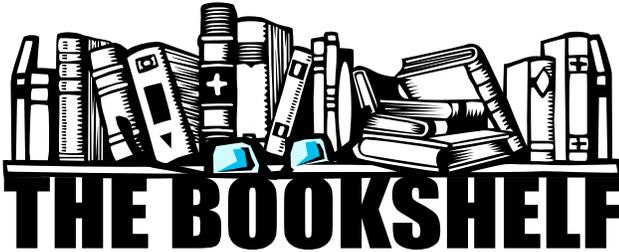
The Future of the Middle East

Wednesday, November 16th—10 a.m. - Noon

Hamoud Salhi, Ph.D., Associate Professor, CSUDH Political Science & Economics Department

Israel and the Arab Spring

Date and Presenter to be determined.



by Patricia Edie

We have a number of eclectic books recommended by Omnimoreans:

Winterdance: The Fine Madness of Running the Iditarod by **Gary Paulsen**. A Minnesota trapper has five dogs and a sled. He is becoming very proficient with sled dogs, and he loves them; the thought of running the Iditarod starts to occupy his daily thoughts and his dreams and he is hooked. An incredible, true account of this 17-day battle against Nature's worst elements and his own frailty.

The Large, The Small and The Human Mind by **Roger Penrose**. Sir Roger covers the waterfront, from physics to cosmology with a smattering of computer science thrown in. An interesting twist is the inclusion of disagreement from several authors (including Hawking). Penrose, naturally, gets the final word.

The Courtier and the Heretic: Leibniz, Spinoza and the Fate of God in the Modern World by **Matthew Stewart**. The author covers the relationship between Leibniz, Spinoza and society at the end of the 17th century. Their disagreement

about God is still playing out in the 21st century. Their respective philosophies provide an underpinning for what we believe about the world and its meaning.

Wonder Girl: The Magnificent Sporting Life of Babe Didrikson Zaharias by **Don Van Natta Jr.** is a spirited biography about the Olympic gold medalist (Track/Field, 1932 Summer Games, Los Angeles) who became the greatest female golfer in history. A wonderful read about a woman who charged through life, shattering stereotypes, both on the playing fields and off.

The Hare with Amber Eyes: A Family's Century of Art and Loss by **Edmund de Waal**. A chronicle of five generations of the eminent Ephrussi family--de Waal's ancestors--whose affluence and authority rivaled that of the Rothschilds in the 19th and 20th centuries. Employing their passion for art as a guide, de Waal explores the opulent rise and devastating fall of the Russian-Jewish Ephrussi family, whose fortune was founded on Ukrainian grain in the mid-19th century. There isn't a dull moment in it!

To Be Sung Underwater: A Novel by **Tom McNeal**. Described as a quiet and immersive story about "who gets handed your heart and what they do with it," this

novel examines how one woman's navigation through life propels her forward in a certain direction, leaving rippling heartache in her wake, and looks at the effect a broken relationship can have on one's life path.

(Book suggestions from Omnimoreans make this column work. Our thanks to **Al Blinder, Carol McCully, Midge Solomon, and Dan Stern** for contributing to our list. Please send your titles, with author name and a very brief description, to Patricia Edie (jpedie@ca.rr.com). Please put "Omnimore Books" as the subject of your email. We look forward to hearing from you.)



Halloween Humor

What do baby ghosts wear on their feet?
Boo-ties

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?

Frostbite.

Why do demons and ghouls hang out together?

Because demons are a ghouls' best friend.

Why do mummies make excellent spies?

They're good at keeping things under wraps.



OMNIOLORE Annual Luncheon Reservation Form

WHEN: **Monday, October 31st, 2011 – 11:00 a.m.**

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

Please make _____ reservations for the **Omnimore Annual Luncheon** at **\$18.00** each:

Name(s): _____
(Please Print)

(Please Print)

Phone #: _____

Enclosed is a check for: **\$18.00** 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

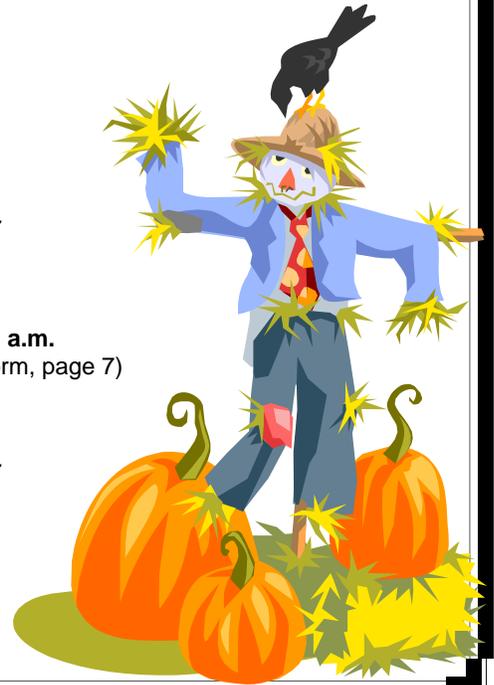
Reservations must be received by October 21st

OMNILORE
CALENDAR
2011

- September**
- 5 Labor Day**
- 8 Board of Directors Meeting— 12 Noon - 1:45 p.m.—Room 7
- 11 Grandparents Day**
- 13 Membership—12 Noon - 1 p.m. - Room 7
- 15 Presentations 101—12 Noon - 1:30 p.m.—Room 7
Jade Suzanne Neely (see article, page 2)
- 16 Hiking Group—10 a.m. - 12 Noon
- 22 No Computer Talk this month.
- 23 First Day of Fall**
- 28 Rosh Hashanah** (begins at sundown)

- October**
- 7 Yom Kippur** (begins at sundown)
- 10 Columbus Day** (observed)
- 11 Membership Committee—12 Noon - 1 p.m.—Room 7
- 13 Board of Directors Meeting—12 Noon - 1:45 p.m.—Room 7
- 15 Input Deadline for November-December Newsletter
- 18 Introducing Omnimore Meeting—10 a.m. - 12 Noon—Room 7
- 21 Hiking Group—10 a.m. - 12 Noon
- 27 Computer Talk—12 Noon - 1 p.m.—Room 7
Computer Security—Rick Spillane (details to be e-mailed)
- 31 Halloween:** Annual Forum General Meeting/Luncheon—**11 a.m.**
Los Verdes Country Club (see article, page 1; reservation form, page 7)

- November**
- 6 Daylight Savings Time Ends** (“fall back” one hour)
- 29 Introducing Omnimore Meeting—10 a.m. - 12 Noon—Room 7



2011 Forums

- Winter—January 31st
- Spring—April 29th
- Summer—July 29th
- Annual Mtg.—October 31st

IMPORTANT:

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

In Memoriam

Milton Holmen

Milton Holmen, a former distinguished Omnimorean, died peacefully at 92 in Sherman Oaks, where his daughter lives. After receiving a Ph.D. in experimental psychology from Stanford, Milton came to Southern California in 1955 as a senior social scientist at Rand Corporation, and eventually became associate dean of the USC Graduate School of Economics. In addition to enrolling in an Omnimore SDG every trimester during his membership, Milton became an active supporter of health care for Alzheimer’s patients when his wife, Marion, was diagnosed with the disease in 1990.

Nancy Sorrenti

Longtime Omnimorean Nancy Sorrenti, who passed away August 13th from pancreatic cancer, will be remembered at a celebration of her life Saturday, September 10, at 1 p.m. in the recreation room of her residence, 3115 Merrill Drive, Torrance. Nancy, nearly 80, joined Omnimore 10 years ago and usually enrolled in two SDGs per trimester, often serving as coordinator and always including the Shakespeare group.



Omnimore Welcomes New Members

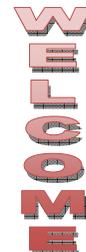
by Howard Korman

Looking forward to the fall trimester, the Membership Committee held two “Introducing Omnimore” meetings this summer. Twenty seven people attended; of those, 14 enrolled before the start of the new trimester. Many **Omnimore** members helped by encouraging friends to get involved in **Omnimore**; their assistance is much appreciated.

The Membership Committee would also like to thank the Daily Breeze and the Easy Reader for their publicity that inspired several people to attend. We post flyers in libraries for the meetings. If anyone has any further suggestions for publicizing future meetings, feel free to contact me.

Let’s welcome all our new members to the classes they have enthusiastically selected.

- Joann Bailey
- Don Brabston
- Jack Christy
- Art Irizarry
- Dale Johnson
- Gene Mick
- Cheryl Morton



- Carolyn Powell
- Vivian Rakocija
- David Schucker
- David Shay
- Elayne Sidley
- Vickie Volchok
- Selma Wheaton