



OMNIOLORE NEWS



Volume 21 Issue 5

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September 2012

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS Elected Officers

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PAGANISM: ALIVE AND WELL?

by Carol Kerster

Can you imagine a more perfect speaker for a Halloween get-together than a specialist in “magickal matters and other spiritual services?” And can you imagine a more fortunate group than Omniloreans since we will have such a person as guest speaker for our October Forum/Halloween Party/Annual Meeting? No? Well, you imagine correctly!

To call Denise Dumars prolific is an understatement of epic proportions. She is a poet, a writer of short stories, books (fiction and non-fiction), essays and reviews, and a columnist for *Star*Line*, the journal of the Science Fiction Poetry Association. She is also a teacher (Long Beach City and L.A. Harbor colleges), photographer, judge (H.P. Lovecraft Film Festival Screenplay competition), and board member of *Coreopsis: A Journal of Myth and Theater*. Her “hands on” services are equally extensive and unique: spiritual weddings, Wiccanings (analogous to christenings), croning parties (milestone events for older women) hospital visits, memorials, funerals and other non-religious ceremonies. I’ve said about past Forum speakers that you will not want to miss a certain presentation. I repeat that now, adding that I do not want to miss it, either!

Nor will we want to miss the once-a-year Business Meeting which will feature brief reports from our hard-working President, Bill Gargaro, and Board Members. Their efforts deserve our recognition and appreciation, so hopefully you will recognize them, even if they are in costume. More to the point, will they recognize you? Of course, costumes are optional, but a large part of the fun of this event is the selection of three lucky winners for best costumes, and the *thrill* of the winners as they receive their prizes. Using the theme set by the speaker, “Paganism: Alive and Well?” should inspire some wildly creative costume ideas in those of you who are so inclined.

You know the drill for registering for this singular Forum, which will happen on October 31, at our ever-reliable Los Verdes Country Club. There is a form on page 9 of this newsletter, and there will be an inevitably orange-colored flyer in your regular mail early in October. The very reasonable \$20 luncheon will surely feature something orange and delicious (vegetarian, if you request such when you make a reservation).



Denise Dumars

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 Bill Gargaro

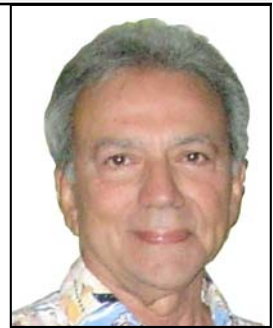
Recent events have been in harmony with the old Chinese proverb (some will say curse) about living in interesting times. Consider the following: we have a rover on Mars sending us interesting photos of rocks and other objects, the deal for Dwight Howard is finally done and, for several billion dollars, we have detected the Higgs boson (we think) to prove the existence of the Higgs field. By the way, this last event explains “why we have mass at all,” a fine philosophical point. So, it’s not really all those cheeseburgers and fries that are causing us to plump up; it’s that darn Higgs field. In a more serious vein, it appears that the battle has been joined for the hearts and minds of us, the electorate. As good Omniloreans I believe we should investigate the issues from all sides before deciding how to vote for the best possible solutions for our country. The stakes seem much higher than usual and the choices more distinct.

This is my final column for the Newsletter as president. One of the ideas that I have been promoting these two years has been a commitment to bringing our organization more in line

with the way business is being conducted in our high-tech world. With a lot of help from our technical members and your cooperation, we have been steadily reducing the number of physical mailings, thus reducing waste and saving the costs of preparation and processing of printed material and, especially, the cost of postage. But let me emphasize that the electronic method of communications may not be suitable or desirable for everyone. Those who wish to have the material mailed via USPS will receive it by that method. The Omnilore Board of Directors will honor your wishes, that is, you will receive your Omnilore information however you specify. We plan to continue our progress in electronic communications by adding a more automated enrollment process in coming trimesters. I hope all who are able will give it a try.

Our next Forum event at Halloween time will include our annual meeting when the new slate of Directors will be voted on and the budget for next year will be presented, so please plan to attend. It is always fun because of the costumes, etc. **Lori Geittmann** will

have a special speaker to make the event as interesting as possible, maybe a vampire or something like that. (Vlad the Impaler hasn’t returned our call as yet.)



It has been a privilege and a pleasure to have served as president. As an organization, Omnilore is fiscally sound, has a stable membership of 300+, and offers truly wonderful opportunities to learn and grow through intellectual stimulation. Omnilore provides two elements that many studies of senior citizens credit for a long and satisfying life, namely, brain nourishment and social interaction. To paraphrase R. L. Stevenson: Omnilore is so full of a number of things I am sure we should all be as happy as kings.

One last thing: Please return the bathroom keys to their proper place when you are finished using them. Chasing missing keys has been my least favorite activity. . . .

Thanks for making these past two years so enjoyable for me and I hope to see you at the Forum, the Franklin Center, and maybe even at Zumba.



PRESENTATIONS 101: THE WORKSHOP

Thursday - September 20th

12 Noon - Room 7

by Jade Suzanne Neely

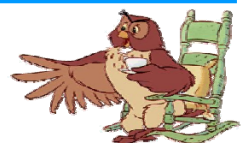


Are you a new member of Omnilore and a little uncertain about your first presentation? Perhaps you have been a member of Omnilore for a while and want to polish your presentation skills. In either case, we have some help for you. On Thursday, September 20th from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m., you are invited to 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. 20th at 12:00 Noon, Room 7, Franklin Center-Redondo Beach

The Next INTRODUCING OMNILORE MEETINGS: Mon. Oct. 22nd - Room 7
Help Spread the Word! Mon. Nov. 26th - Room 7



OMNIOLORE PROFILE

Larry and Janet Brown: Of and About the Transformation Generation

by Art Irizarry

Larry and Janet Brown have been active members of Omnilore since 2004, participating and contributing to its development and growth. At first meeting they appear to be complementary halves of the whole, Eastern girl matched with Western boy, roughly paraphrasing and revising lyrics from a popular rock song.

Illinois-born and reared Janet met California-born and reared Larry while they were undergraduates at Monmouth College in the northwestern corner of Illinois. Although a Los Angeles native, Larry's family had strong roots in the Swedish community of Galesburg, Illinois and surrounding area, the same community in which Carl Sandburg was born and started his development as a writer and poet. Janet's home base was Athens, Illinois, a self-sustaining community northwest of Springfield. It was established by the Methodist minister Reverend John Overstreet in 1819, who was followed by various northern European families emigrating westward.

Janet's DAR heritage on both sides of her family provided connection to early American history, just as coal-mining immigrant Polish and Irish families gave impulse to the growth of her community and contemporary America. Rather than race, religious considerations were the basis for a sense of community within Athens' small but diverse population. At the same time religion provided the basis for differentiation in the socio-cultural structure within town. Over time those differentiations have diminished as what now is recognized as Midwestern culture has taken form, differentiating it from Southern, Eastern and Western regional cultures.

Larry's initial home base was the post-war, diverse community of Boyle Heights, where Midwestern families who came to work in war industries settled among the immigrant as well as long established ethnic groups in the area; primarily Mexican-, Japanese-, Italian- and Jewish-Americans. From Boyle Heights his family moved to Whittier, where he spent his pre-college years. Larry's family was part of the stream of first-, second- and third- generation immigrant families who settled in the Los Angeles area and established what Larry called the "blended" smaller communities of the Los Angeles area. Those blended communities transformed Los Angeles into the cosmopolitan, multiethnic, multiracial urban region, now considered the forefront of contemporary American society and a founding locus of the global community of the future.

Janet and Larry spoke of their respective communities and their own lives in the context of changes from their earliest years into the 1960s and more recent times. They underscored the powerful changes which occurred in the 1960s, using their experience as college students at Monmouth College as a microcosmic view of the changes.

Monmouth College was established in 1853 as a Presbyterian Church affiliated, coeducational,

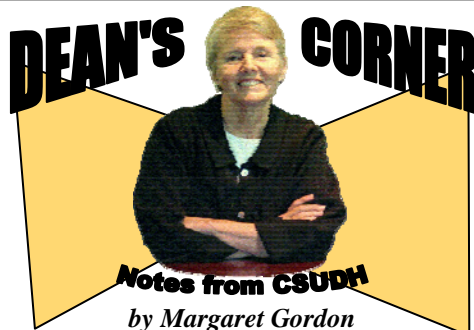
liberal arts college focused on teacher education for its women students, readiness for the ministry for its men. Aside from being open to a diverse student population from its founding, Monmouth was one of the very few colleges that admitted women. Two national sororities were founded at Monmouth as a means for women to serve and support their communities.

That combined heritage was part of their college experience as Janet and Larry worked on their undergraduate degrees, Janet as an English major with a psychology minor and Larry focused on history, a long-time subject of interest for him. Subsequently, Larry began graduate work in history at USC, an endeavor which was sidetracked as Vietnam War era draft anxiety and the arrival of his and Janet's first child, a daughter, required a new path.

As described by Janet and Larry, their experience at Monmouth initially was of a strict social environment requiring, for example, women students to be in their dorms by 7PM, with exceptions granted for study in the library until 10PM. Chapel attendance was required, in fact monitored daily. Other requirements were outlined, along with the changes which were implemented year by year, from 1960 until their graduation. As Janet described the transformation, it was an accelerated movement from the decade of the 1950s into the future in a matter of four years. Rules became voluntary options, rigorous conformity was remolded into individual choice and responsibility and, in their case, love became a marriage lasting decades, resulting in a son and daughter and the experience of a second generation of transformation.

Our encounter, initially intended as an interview, was undertaken by Janet and Larry with the caveat that "there is nothing remarkable" about them. However, it resulted in the discovery of parallels and shared patterns in our lives, which resulted in the suggestions from Janet that this article feature the parallels and intersection of the lives of Larry and Art, the writer, at the moment of our meeting and that the study of the 1960s might become a topic for an Omnilore study and discussion group. In the space allowed for this article, both ideas will remain suggestions for possible study of the transformation in Los Angeles and American society, as well as possible future Omnilore endeavors.





Dean, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
College of Extended & International Education
CSUDH

One of the pleasures of serving as dean of the College of Extended & International Education (CEE) is being able to promote and support international exchange of students, scholars and professional delegations.

CEE's support of the university's goal of fostering a global learning environment occurs in several ways. The following programs are few examples. In summer 2012, CEE organized ESL camps for approximately 650 Chinese youth. Throughout the year, CEE's international training unit provides customized training programs focusing on American business and government practices for delegations of international professionals. CEE also houses the American Culture and Language Program which enables college-bound international students to strengthen English skills and prepare for an American university before beginning their official studies.

Since 2010, in cooperation with Georgetown University and with a grant from the Department of State USAID, CSUDH has been hosting cohorts of men and women from rural regions in Central American countries. Participants are community health workers selected for training

programs that will enable them to establish and sustain successful public health programs in their own regions. The program also fosters understanding of democracy.

The California State University International Program (CSU IP) is a star among university student exchange programs. CSU IP has exchange partnerships with over 60 colleges worldwide. CSU students compete annually to be selected for a year-long study abroad immersion experience at one of the partner universities. CSU students pay regular CSU fees plus living expenses. The international partner campuses, where the CSU has sent its students, are entitled to send their qualified and interested students to CSUDH or one of the other 22 campuses in the system.

International exchange students select CSUDH as a designation because of its academic programs, such as business, digital music arts, TESOL, and its location, which provides access to the natural and cultural attractions of the region. Five exchange students, in the photo below, arrived last week from Japan, Europe and Australia and are excited about beginning their study abroad experience in the U.S at Dominguez Hills.

If you know anyone considering applying to CSUDH or another CSU campus, remind him or her to take a look at CSU IP. (For information see <http://www.calstate.edu/ip/>).

Just a note: International Education Week will be celebrated nationally November 12-16, 2012 (<http://iew.state.gov/2012/>). CSUDH will participate by sponsoring a study abroad vendor fair, student group booth displays, international foods, special speakers and more. Join us. For information contact the International Education Center (IEC@csudh.edu).



Left to right Margaret Gordon (Dean CEE), Sebastian Franz (Germany), Go Suzuki (Japan), Manuel Schwenger (Germany), Marine Solignac (France), Osamudiamen Eguae (Australia), Rachael Wangui (Coordinator, CSUDH International Education Center).



by Hal Hart,

Omnilore Equipment Manager
(Equipment@Omnilore.org)

Do-It-Yourself EQUIPMENT TRAINING

If you were unable to attend the session of Equipment Training conducted just before each trimester begins, copies of those training charts are always available in an envelope on each equipment closet's doors, providing instructions for using our projectors, desktop presenter (document camera) for projecting hard-copy materials, speakers, internet access, playing videos, and our Windows (PC) and Macintosh laptops. Alternatively, study up with the *tip sheets* for each piece of equipment or the full set of those training charts linked from the "Equipment" webpage directly accessible from our Omnilore.org homepage via the 5th navigation button in the bottom (orange) row just under the Omnilore banner and logo. Check it out. You will need the "owlsrus" Username and current website **password** to access any of those webpages on the Members-Only (orange) row of nav buttons.

Be sure to allow extra time to set up and practice with the equipment before using it. Best is to do this practice before the day of your presentation, maybe at your previous class meeting when you can engage classmates to help figure things out. If you become desperate, the Equipment Managers are usually willing to schedule one-on-one help/training – arrange this assistance by emailing:

Equipment@Omnilore.org



Omnioorean Memorializes Late Husband in Space Flight



Shirley Nagai has found a most appropriate way to memorialize her husband, Mataka, an aerospace engineer with a love of science and deep appreciation for the wonders of the universe. The tribute she chose was an Earth Orbit memorial spaceflight offered by Celestis, a private enterprise that transports cremated remains into space to help families translate a loved one's dreams into a kind of reality. Every Celestis spaceflight

capsule containing ashes is firmly attached to a rocket and launched alongside a scientific or commercial satellite.

Mat, who enthusiastically followed the space program and often scanned the night skies with a telescope before his death from long-term heart disease in 2009, was on Celestis's "New Frontier Flight," which was launched in May. He was one of 320 participants on this "mission," which included Gordon Cooper, an original Mercury 7 astronaut.

Mat grew up in (the Territory of) Hawaii and might have become a farmer (like his father), except for a single school exam that changed his life forever: He scored the highest I.Q. ever recorded among Hawaii's high school students until that time. Territory school officials then sponsored him at the University of Hawaii, where he received a degree in civil engineering.

Shortly after the launch in Florida, as Mat was hurtling through space at 17,000 mph on "the ultimate ride," Shirley commented, "Every time I see a vapor trail in the sky, I think my husband is visiting me . . ."



(Editor's Note: Much more information on memorial spaceflights is available at Celestis.com.)

Fall Dates Set for Next "Introducing Omniole" Meetings

by
Linda
Jenson



The Membership Committee has scheduled an "Introducing Omniole" meeting for prospective members who may want to join *Omniole* for the Spring trimester. The dates are:

Monday, October 22nd, 10 a.m.
Monday, November 26th, 10 a.m.
at the Franklin Center in Room 7

Attendance at an "Introducing Omniole" meeting is mandatory for new members, 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!

About Those Free OLLI Classes: We Need to RSVP!

by Marion Smith

We encourage you to register for and attend as many free OLLI events as possible. Please RSVP or register in advance so that we know the number of participants to plan for. Call 310.243.3741 or use the form in the OLLI class catalog. **Thank you!**

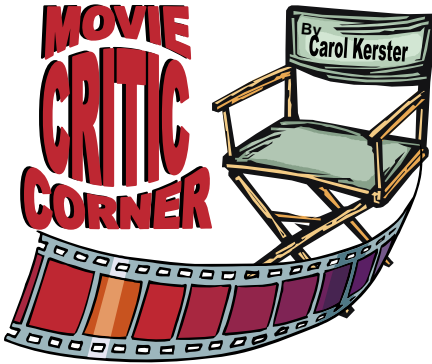
"A Taste of OLLI" Offers Off-Site Talks to Omnioleans

by Kate Nelson

OLLI is piloting a free "off-campus" lecture series offering insights into a variety of topics -- e.g., art, dinosaurs, South America -- by CSUDH faculty and staff. "Dinosaurs and the Origin of Birds" will open the five-Friday series September 14 at 10.a.m. at Joslyn Center, Manhattan Beach.

Registration is required in advance, and forms (basically name, address, email required) can be obtained by calling Kate 310.372.7276 or emailing kate.nelson@verizon.net

You can also call the registration folks at the college: 310.243.3741.



Several weeks after reading that *The Well-Digger's Daughter* was “the kind of film they don't make anymore, only here it is...,” I found it playing in an accessible theater. (It may not be there by the time you read this, but there's always Netflix. And, yes, it is in French with subtitles.)

The story of this lovely little film is not terribly new; the eldest daughter Patricia, a luminescent Astrid Berges-Frisbey, falls in love with the seductive, charming son of the wealthiest man in the small town where she and her father Pascal, the well-digger, live. Pascal not only adores her, but is dependent on her to care for him and his five other daughters. He presumes that his co-worker, plain but generous Felipe, will marry this daughter, and that

his family will continue living and growing, according to all the mores and standards it has always followed. When it is discovered that Patricia's brief, secret attachment to Jacques has resulted in her pregnancy, Pascal follows a path that leads to embarrassment, humiliation, anger and rejection, and it appears that all is lost. Gratefully, the writer-director of this piece, which is based on a classic work by Marcel Pagnol, knew better than to turn a somewhat old-fashioned love story into a modern horror film. Daniel Auteuil, the actor who plays Pascal with heart-breaking realism, is also that very smart writer-director. Auteuil's career took off with two films he made 25 years ago, *Jean de Florette* and *Manon of the Spring*. They were also based on stories by Pagnol. You may want to look them up, and if you do, let us know. (See below.)*

In Brief...

Intouchables, another French film is, surprisingly, having quite a local run, at least at this writing. The story of the relationship between a caregiver and his patient, an obviously all-wrong-for-the-job hustler, and a classically indulged, wealthy quadriplegic, may be predictable. But the exquisite performances, the smart writing, the laugh-out-loud humor and the heartfelt tears, all add up to a very satisfying movie.

Beasts of the Southern Wild is a rare treat, for the exquisite presence of an unknown 6-year old, Quvenzhané Wallis, and the man who plays her father, a real-life baker, also unknown. The film is a magical mix of fantasy, destruction, officious authority, breathtaking scenery, and unconditional love. It is also recommended by loyal readers of this column, **Nancy Shannon** and **Marylou Leiman**. Nancy wrote: “This is a really magnificent film; visually stunning, gritty, and very, very different.”

Nancy also recommends *Big Boys Gone Bananas*. “It's a picture to make your blood boil; a statement about the Freedom of the Press in the U.S.”

Finally, *Hope Springs* is recommended by several readers. It's purported to be a truly grown-up take on a 30-year marriage. I have not seen it yet, but with the cast of Steve Carell, Tommy Lee Jones and Meryl Streep, chances are that it's as good as reported. It would be great, if you do see it, to send your opinions, favorable or not, to me, ckerster@aol.com.*

You, too, can be a film critic!



What's New with OLLI this fall?

by **Jim Bouchard**

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



There are a lot of interesting courses and fun events being offered this fall through OLLI. You will find complete information in your OLLI catalog on online at www.csudh.edu/olli. Here are just a few of the highlights:

- ▶ The Osher Lecture Series on campus this semester will be *The Promise of the American West*. Be sure not to miss Dr. Abe Ravitz and his talk on Zane Grey and the *Riders of the Purple Sage* which is rescheduled to December 5th.
- ▶ A series of lectures called *A Taste of OLLI* will be held in Manhattan Beach in the Joslyn Center. Be sure to register ahead of time for these presentations since we are expecting a large turnout.
- ▶ Phil Girona, an award-winning financial adviser, will teach his *Personal Finance and Retirement* at the Franklin Center for the first time. (Phil has taught this course to OLLI members on campus for several years.)
- ▶ Our *Countdown to the 2012 Election* will include a talk by Willie Tucker, who has been a professional fundraiser for gubernatorial, senate and presidential campaigns.
- ▶ *Make a Holiday Greeting Card* will include a field trip by light rail to take photos, and provide instruction in the Osher Mac Lab on campus to produce a personalized greeting card for the holiday season.
- ▶ And don't miss the Art Exhibit and Reception on Wednesday, October 24, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the CSUDH University Library. This exhibit of the late Van Edward Slater, husband of OLLI member Eula Slater, is being created by Dean Sandra Parham of the CSUDH University Library.

And you will find much more as you peruse your OLLI catalog. I look forward to seeing everyone this fall!

Omniole's Best-Sellers Special Interest Group

by Patricia Edie

There is nothing an Omnilorean loves to do more than read, unless it is to talk about a book recently read! A number of members have been doing just that over the four months of the summer by participating in the newly formed **Best-Sellers Special Interest Group**. For the past four months at least 22 members have gathered on the second Monday of the month at 11 a.m. in Room 8 of the Franklin Center to share their thoughts on *The Hunger Games*, *Coming Apart*, *Quiet* and *The Tiger's Wife*. Alternating between a non-fiction/fiction books that have recently been on a Best Sellers List, they have covered a wide variety of



topics. The discussion is always lively, fun and informative. Since it has been so successful, the facilitators, **Patricia Edie** and **Cindy Eggert**, have agreed to continue with the monthly gatherings. So, mark your calendars now for:

September 10: *Wild* by Cheryl Strayed:

You're having a bad period in your life ... some of it from bad choices and decisions but partly due to just plain bad luck. So what do you do next? Cheryl Strayed decided to solo-hike the Pacific Crest Trail from Mojave, California to Bridge of the Gods, Oregon. Having never been hiking, let alone backpacking, she sets out in June from desert territory with a way overloaded backpack she nicknames "Monster." Soon learning to eliminate non-essentials, her non-fiction book, *Wild*, tells with brutal honesty and flashes of humor how she manages the trip and discovers herself in the process.

October 8: *Canada* by Richard Ford:

From the opening sentences: "First I'll tell you about the robbery our parents committed. Then about the murders, which happened later. The robbery is the more important part, since it served to set my and my sister's lives on the courses they eventually followed. . . ."

Richard Ford's novel is destined to pull you into the life of its storyteller. At the age of 15, life for Dell Parsons and his twin sister is forever changed. Reviewers have described *Canada* with terms such as nerve-shattering, propelled by charm and clarity, engaging, and eloquently woven and plotted.

There is no need to enroll, no need to do a presentation...just show up on the day and time with enthusiasm, prepared to participate. In order to stay current with new best sellers, the November and December book selections will be made in early October. Notification will be sent out and the website will be updated.

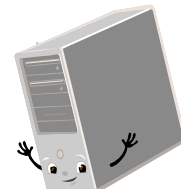


Computer Talks

September 27th - Noon to 1:00 - Room 7

Presented by Rick Spillane

Free Software . . . ?



Free Software! Yes, Free Software for PCs and MACs. Don't pay another penny for commercial software. Microsoft is coming out with Windows 8 and Office 2013. Do you really need to buy new software and maybe even a new computer? Tired of paying high prices for software? Want to enhance your presentations and computer competence with "Word," "Power Point," "Excel?" Why pay for expensive software when you can get the same thing free.

Come hear a discussion of LibreOffice 3.6, an "open source" version of Microsoft's Office, which does everything Office does plus more and is free. **Rick Spillane** will cover what "open source" software is and why it is both free and legal. We will show how the OpenOffice version of Word and PowerPoint work using actual presentations. If time remains we will briefly discuss how to download and install free versions of Adobe Reader, anti-virus, and firewall software programs, and the best email program out there, Thunderbird. Note the software to be discussed runs on both PCs and Macs.

October 25th - Noon to 1:00 - Room 7

Presented by Marion Smith

Google 101: Stop Searching and Start FINDING

Are you sick and tired of looking for information about the Civil War and ending up with 5,243,897 links to things like sheet metal fasteners or punk rock bands? This presentation is for you! In this one-hour presentation you'll learn searching tips and techniques that will help you actually find what you are looking for with Google's help. If you're a new computer user, that's fine. You'll learn why "google" has become a commonly used verb—and you'll soon be using the word yourself.

Emil Raulin - Omnilore's 6th President

by Burt Cutler

We began this series about early Omnilore presidents with an objective of providing the many folks who joined Omnilore in the last five-ten years, some feel for the genesis and growth of Omnilore. **Emil Raulin** led us into the 21st century, some 11 and 12 years after Omnilore's beginnings in 1990.

A native of Dearborn, Michigan, Emil received his Bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1951. Just two months after graduating, he married Betty, who became his 56-year partner. During his business life Emil worked for just two companies, first for Union Carbide where for 12+ years he was an expert in investment casting, a metal-forming process." Garrett Corporation made him an offer he couldn't refuse—to move to California to help start a new division that included investment casting; he worked there for 36 years until his retirement in 1989. Several years later he heard about the new South Bay Learning-in-Retirement organization—Omnilore—which he joined in 1992. Soon after, Emil and Betty volunteered to have an Omnilore telephone set up at their home, so he often was the first member that folks who had heard about Omnilore would contact.

Emil soon began to serve our organization as a coordinator, then joined the

Board of Directors as Treasurer, and then was President in 2000 and 2001....and later was Head Coordinator.

During Emil's presidency, Omnilore took the first crack at a Classic and Current Novels SIG, which introduced some of us to Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged*. (A similar SIG is now available.)

In our early days we advertised for members by direct mail to lists of local folks who had participated in Elderhostel. In one of Emil's President's Messages in the Omnilore Newsletter he noted that 57 folks had shown up to hear about Omnilore, where Emil and **Edith Garvey** and others explained what we do at Omnilore. In 2001 we also experimented with informing interested library visitors about Omnilore in the meeting rooms at three local libraries.

During this period Omnilore had its first CSUDH course; it was set up by **John Taber**, coordinating with the university staff. Twenty-seven signed up and attendance averaged 22, not bad for those times.

During Emil's last year as president, his Academic VP was **Rose Shields**, our first African-American member, much-beloved.

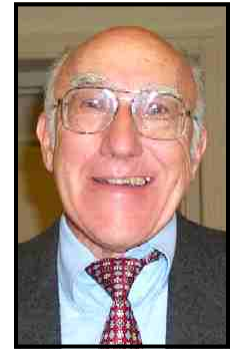
During Emil's presidency, he heard from CSUDH that they were not going to renew their lease at Knob Hill Com-

munity Center, which had been our abode from 1992. Emil accomplished the move to Franklin Center with no hiccups.

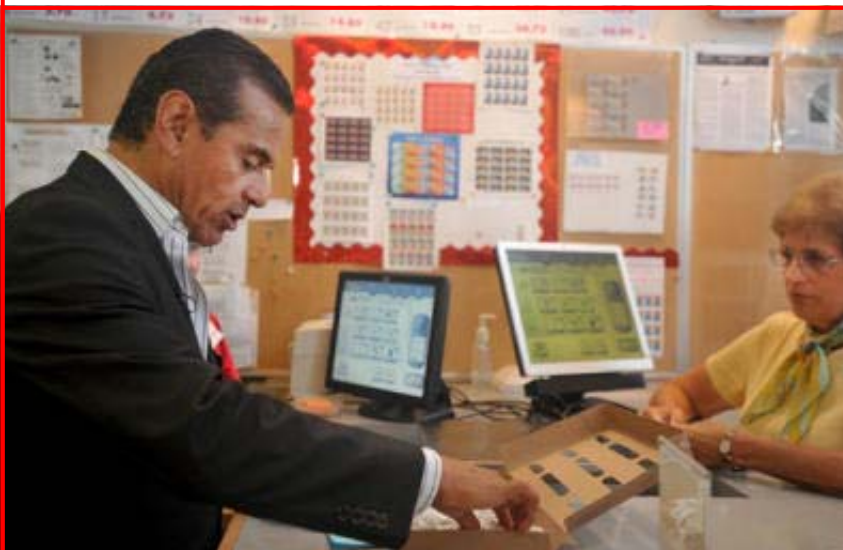
During Emil's presidency we experimented with circular table arrangements so that everybody could have better eye contact with everyone else. That was several years before we purchased our first overhead display equipment; the use of this equipment quickly brought us back to the U seating formation.

Emil represented Omnilore at ALIROW, the association of western U.S. Learning-in-Retirement (LIR) groups. Over the various meetings we attended we found that Omnilore really stands out from other LIRs, and Emil described those differences to our membership. He also led a group of members who visited our local neighbors, PLATO and SAGE, where we profited by comparing operating methods.

Emil Raulin was also highly respected for his participation in the South Bay Area YMCA and in his church. He was an outstanding gentleman, the only golf buddy who never shouted "damn" or worse at errant ball flight!



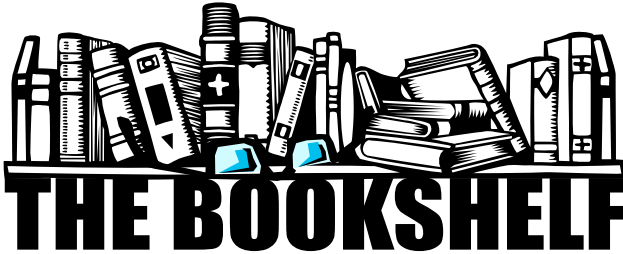
Mayor Villaraigosa Plays Post Office with Omnilore



Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, on one of his community service jaunts around the city, interacted with Omnilore member **Sunny Moss** recently in San Pedro, where he was working a stint at the all-volunteer Weymouth Corners Post Office there. The Assistance League is one of the philanthropies that receive all funds raised from this one-of-a-kind postal facility in the nation.

As a member of both Omnilore and the Assistance League, Sunny was in the facility at the time of the visit, and made a sizable purchase of stamps from the mayor, who was working the counter. Sunny actually purchased the stamps for Omnilore's use, which she does on a regular basis so that both of her organizations benefit from her activities there.

The Post Office is located at 1441 West 18th Street in San Pedro, where it has operated since 1966. (*Sunny is shown at left with the Mayor*)



THE BOOKSHELF

by Patricia Edie

Members share recommendations of varied and compelling books:

For the non-fiction readers we have *Thinking Fast and Slow* by **Daniel Kahneman**. It doesn't matter if you're an artist, humanist, scientist, investor, parent...Kahneman explains the different ways we think. There is Fast (intuitive, emotional...) and Slow (logical, deliberate...) plus much more, sometimes to our advantage, sometimes not. If you want to understand yourself, others, make better decisions, be happier, richer, more satisfied, then read and think about this book.

For the history buffs, one Omnilorean recommends two books by **Charles Mann**, *1491: New Revelations About America Before Columbus* and *1493: Uncovering the New World Columbus Created*. Described as "riveting and fast-paced," both books assemble a diverse body of scholarship into a first-rate history of America.

For the science readers, a new book "hot off the press" comes highly recommended. *Energy for Future Presidents*, by **Richard A. Muller** is described as "the

the next President.

Two memoirs are also suggested for your reading pleasure: *Breakfast at Sally's* by **Richard Lemieux** tells the author's story of being an affluent businessman who saw his fortune change overnight and became homeless. Written on a secondhand manual typewriter at a picnic table in a public park, it is a rare inside look at how the other America lives. Our member says of the book: "It sounds like a 'downer' but is far from it. It is a real peek inside the life of homeless people, how they help each other and the people who reach out to help them."

The second memoir is also a glimpse into a world we don't usually see, a hospital in the past. In *God's Hotel*, **Dr. Victoria Sweet** recounts the 20 years she spent at San Francisco's old Laguna Honda Hospital, a giant chronic care facility for the city's destitute and ill. Called the "last almhouse in America," the book shows us a hospital where patients were given time to heal and staff practiced slow medicine. A beautiful and unique book.

Lastly we have a fiction recommenda-

tion, the latest Maisie Dobbs mystery, *Elegy for Eddie* by **Jacqueline Winspear**. As with all the previous novels in the series, this story is set in post-World War I London. Maisie, psychologist, investigator and "one of the great fictional heroines," returns to discover the truth about the death of Eddie Pettit, a gentle soul with a near-magical gift for working with horses. If you like *Downton Abbey*, you will love being drawn into Maisie's world.

(Book suggestions from Omniloreans make this column work. Our thanks to **Joyce Barham, Jay Edie, Nancy Shannon** 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 "Omnilore Books" as the subject of your email. We look forward to hearing from you.)

OLLI Open House - September 12

Do you have friends who are interested in joining OLLI? Invite them to our September OLLI Open House: **Wednesday, September 12 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm**

Annie & Edd Whetmore will talk: Political & Comm. Implications of HBOs "The Newsroom"

Extended Education Auditorium, EE-1213, CSUDH

Free Food!

OMNIOLORE Annual Luncheon Reservation Form

WHEN: *Wednesday*, October 31st, 2012—11:30 a.m.

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

Reservations must be received by October 21st

Please make _____ reservations for the **Omnilore** Annual Luncheon at **\$20.00** each:

Name(s): _____
(Please Print)

_____ (Please Print)

Phone #: _____

Enclosed is a check for: **\$20.00** Other

Please make checks out to **CSUDH**, and put in the Forum Committee's box in Room 7 or send to:

Forum Committee, c/o Lori Geittmann
420 Avenue E
Redondo Beach, CA 90277-5122

- September**
- 3 Labor Day**
 - 10 Best Sellers Book Group—11 a.m.-12.30 p.m., Room 8
 - 12 OLLI Open House—1:30 p.m., CSUDH EE-1213
 - 13 Board of Directors Meeting— 12 Noon - 2 p.m., Room 7
 - 17 Rosh Hashanah**
 - 20 Presentations 101—12 Noon - 1:30 p.m., Room 7
 - 21 Hiking Group—10 a.m.
 - 26 Yom Kippur**
 - 27 Computer Talk—12 Noon - 1 p.m., Room 7
Free Software . . . ?—Rick Spillane (see article page 7)
- October**
- 8 Columbus Day**
 - 8 Best Sellers Book Group—11 a.m.-12.30 p.m., Room 8
 - 11 Board of Directors Meeting— 12 Noon - 2 p.m., Room 7
 - 15 Input Deadline for November-December 2012 Newsletter
 - 19 Hiking Group—10 a.m. - 12 Noon
 - 22 Introducing Omnimore Meeting—10 a.m. - 12 Noon, Room 7
 - 25 Computer Talk—12 Noon - 1 p.m., Room 7
Google 101—Marion Smith (see article page 7)
 - 31 **Halloween / Annual Forum General Meeting/Luncheon**
11 a.m., Los Verdes Country Club
(see article, page 1; reservation form, page 9)
- November**
- 4 Daylight Savings Time Ends (“fall back” one hour)**
 - 26 Introducing Omnimore Meeting—10 a.m. - 12 Noon—Room 7

OMNILORE
CALENDAR
2012

**HAPPY
HALLOWEEN**



2012 Forums
Winter—January 30th
Spring—April 30th
Summer—July 30th
Annual Mtg.—October 31st

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

In Memoriam

Anne Allen

Active Omnimorean Anne Allen died in her sleep on July 25, three days after suffering a broken hip; she was 86. Born and raised in Minnesota, Anne received a bachelor’s degree from Northwestern University and became a Certified Public Accountant.



With her husband Milton, whom she married in 1979, Anne was a sailor, skier and world traveler. She joined Omnimore in 2000 and had recently been enrolled in the spring trimester SDG, “One River: Exploring the Amazon.”

Generous with her time, energy and humor, she contributed to many community groups in the South Bay, and was well known in Omnimore for driving great distances to enable members without transportation to attend SDGs and participate in other group activities.

She is survived by a brother and several nieces and nephews.

Jean Winter

Jean Winter, who was born in Illinois in 1926, died at her home June 29 after battling ocular melanoma. She graduated from the University of Illinois in 1948 with a degree in Journalism. After working a year in advertising in Chicago, she married her husband Bill, whom she had met at the university.

Moving to California in the ‘50s for Bill’s engineering career at Hughes Aircraft Company, they raised six children in Redondo Beach. They were founding members of the King Harbor Yacht Club, which honored Jean as its “Woman of the Year” for her volunteer work. She enjoyed tennis and bridge, church activities, gardening, hiking and international travel.

Jean joined Omnimore in 1996 and remained active until going on mail-only status in 2007. She is survived by five children, 12 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and two sisters.

