



OMNIOLORE NEWS



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September 2024

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October 31st Forum Speakers:

Omnilore Presents the Pennyroyal Players, Enacting the Suffragette Musical

by Susan Strauss

As you have probably noticed, Halloween decorations abound in the stores, the theaters are playing a lot of scary movies, and there are a lot of enticements to visit haunted houses. Adding to all the excitement is all the publicity regarding the November 5th election: freedom to vote will be intertwined with the spirits of Halloween. All this will be celebrated at the October 31st Forum.

The Pennyroyal Players in their Suffragette Musical Costumes



Our entertainment will be provided by The Pennyroyal Players, a group of approximately ten women who will be presenting the "Suffragette Musical: From Battles to Ballots." The musical is a tribute to 27 women who dared to fight for their rights, starting in 1591, extending to 1920 in Tennessee where the Suffragette fight culminated with the ratification of the 19th Amendment. The fast-paced musical portrays the battles that were fought for freedom and equality, and it will highlight the struggles and the victories these heroic women faced. <http://www.pennyroyalplayers.org>

We are honored that the Pennyroyal Players have accepted our invitation to entertain us, their fellow Omniloreans. Anne Destabelle with the support of her husband, Ray, is the founder and the executive director. The group began in 2003 with Anne and her friend, Joan Perkins providing a program that resulted in an exciting demand for more performances. The group has grown and expanded its repertoire to nine productions and the number of performances to 20,000. They have received numerous awards and over \$195,000 in donations which they pass on to different charities.

MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Elected Officers

President	Dennis Bosch
VP - Academics	Karol McQueary
VP - Administration	Leslie Criswell
Treasurer	Wendy Morgan
Secretary	Adrian Pruetz
Past President	Rick Spillane
Member-at-Large	Dayla Sims
Member-at-Large	Ralph Ford
Member-at-Large	Janet Moser

Standing Committee Chairs

Membership	Susan Strauss
Head Coordinator	Karol McQueary
Forum	Susan Strauss
Communications	Deborah Hawkins
Curriculum	Ruth Hart
Evaluation	Karol McQueary
	Leslie Criswell
Technology	Rick Spillane
Lifestyles Activities	Leslie Criswell

Appointees

Registrar	Al Ortiz
SDG Scheduling	Ruth Hart
Room Scheduling	Sharon Bohner
Laptop Administrator	Rick Spillane
Equipment	Rick Spillane
Supplies	Leslie Criswell/Susan Strauss
Office Manager	Lynn Anderson
Member Advocate	Gloria Martin
Web Team	TBD

The Forum luncheon will be held:

Thursday, October 31, 2024: Social Hour, 11:00 a.m.; Lunch, Noon

The theme is Halloween, so bring those costumes out, etc.

We're meeting at: the **Original Red Onion**, 736 Bart Earle Way, Rolling Hills Estates.

Menu: Salad (mixed greens with sliced jicama, tangerine, sliced avocado, glazed pecans, berries, cucumber, strawberries, apple, feta cheese), skirt steak fajitas, chicken fajitas, corn and flour tortillas, guacamole, sour cream and pico de gallo salsa, Spanish rice and refried beans, and flan for desert. Vegetarian option: Cheese enchilada replaces fajitas; the rest is the same.

The cost is \$40 per person. [Use our online payment](#) system or use the Reservation Form accompanying the Forum flyer.

Reservations must be received by October 17th

Questions? Call Susan Strauss (310) 749-6263

OMNIOLORE NEWS is a publication of OMNIOLORE Learning-In-Retirement, Inc., a tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) nonprofit public benefit corporation.

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

Editor Joan Kolic
Staff Shera Dolmatz, Jim North

MESSAGE FROM OMNIOLORE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dennis Bosch

As the first year of my term as serving as President of Omnilore draws to a close, I wish to express my gratitude for my fellow Board of Directors members Leslie Criswell (filling in for Carolyn Pohlner since Sep 1st), Karol McQueary, Wendy Morgan, and Adrian Pruetz. They deserve our highest admiration and gratitude for the time, effort, and expertise that they expended fulfilling their duties.

I would also like to express my appreciation for the Management Council which have been key to enabling the Omnilore organization to function throughout the year.

The Nominating Committee has recruited a slate of officers for our Board of Directors for the period Nov 1 – Oct 31, 2025. They are: President: Dennis Bosch, Vice-President – Administration: Bill Gargaro, Vice-President – Academics: Dayla Sims, Treasurer: Wendy Morgan, and Secretary – Adrian Pruetz

On August 2nd, Omnilore held a social potluck picnic in Wilson Park in Torrance which featured socialization and food to share. We plan on offering more such social events in the future.

I want to express my appreciation for members of the technical team (Al Ortiz, Donna Wong) who have interfaced with the USC Viterbi School of Engineering on:

- ◆ Membership Database – Spring 2024 – Project Lead – Al Ortiz
- ◆ *User Interface for Membership Database – Fall 2024 – Project Lead – Donna Wong*

In 2025, we anticipate that this will result in a user-friendly user interface for those responsible for maintaining the Membership Database.

Annual Meeting and Forum Thursday Oct 31st

- ◆ Voting at the Annual Meeting
- ◆ Forum at the Original Red Onion in RHE
- ◆ Entertainment “The Suffragette Musical” by Pennyroyal Players
 - Pay musical tribute to the 27 “Radical Women” who dared to fight for their rights for freedom and to vote
 - <https://pennyroyalplayers.org>

Spring 2025 Trimester Curriculum Courses:

- ◆ Notification of Course Selection options Oct 5th
- ◆ Spring 2025 Registrations due by Oct 18th

Omnilore Walking Group – Redondo Beach Pier to Hermosa Beach Along the Strand October 11, 2024—at 10:00 a.m.

by Dennis Bosch

The walk will have a couple of unique features:

- ✓ An easy walking outing
- ✓ Walk from the Redondo Beach Pier towards Hermosa Beach along the Strand
- ✓ You may enjoy your brown bag picnic lunch or choose to eat at one of the many dining venues along the way

Meet at the benches outside **El Torrito** at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, October 11th (see picture to the right).

Street parking available on South Broadway (1 block east of S. Catalina Ave). Another alternative is to take the Torrance bus #7 which travels Sepulveda Blvd. and stops at the Pier.

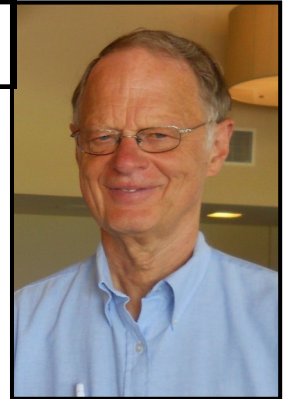
Parking available in the Garage (\$2/hour).

Bring water, a hat, sunscreen, and a jacket in case of strong ocean breezes.

Rain always cancels our planned walks.

Please R.S.V.P. to walking-group@omnilore.org by 5 p.m. on October 9th.

Walk leader: Dennis Bosch 310.381.9187



Dennis Bosch
President
Omnilore LIR, Inc.



Omnilore Profile: Mike Fitzsimons

by Shera Dolmatz

The Fitzsimmons family has deep California roots. Mike was born in Glendale to parents who were both born in southern California. One of his grandparents was also born in our state.

Mike attended St. Hedwig Grade School in Los Alamitos and graduated from Servile High School in Anaheim. He obtained a B.S. degree in electrical engineering from Loyola Marymount University and ultimately received a master's degree in computer science from UCLA.

Mike was a lifer at TRW. He remained a loyal employee with the aerospace firm through thick and thin. He remained after the company was bought by Northrup Grumman and remained there until retiring in 2020.

Mike had a successful career at TRW and was promoted to increasingly responsible positions in the software and program management divisions. At TRW, he helped design and code a network for his program long before networks were available commercially. He helped install and oversee his group's work in action on the tiny island of Diego Garcia as well as facilities in Alaska, Guam and Scotland. His final nine years were as manager in Mission Assurance and in Mike's view got to play 'greybeard' in helping management.

Mike was 'blessed to meet my wife Sue at TRW. We met on the day of her interview.' They married two years later in 1983. In the early years, they were able to work together. The couple have two children. Their daughter, Colleen, is a religion teacher. Her three sons, ages 6, 4 and 2 'provide endless joy to Sue and me.'

Mike's son, Tim is a talented actor, singer and dancer and lives in Seattle.

Ruth Hart was in his department in his early years at TRW. She was later promoted to department manager. Mike met her husband, Hal, and eventually was invited to their St Hart's Day parties. At the parties, Mike met other Omniloreans. Hal and



Mike & Sue Fitzsimons

Ruth told him how much they enjoyed Omnilore. After retiring, Mike joined.

Every March, Mike and Sue host an annual St. Paddy's Day Party. The couple has held this for the past 43 years. Inspired by Hal's example, if a guest attends 10 parties, they receive a T-shirt.

Mike loves sports. Since retiring, Mike plays golf twice a week. On Mondays, he plays with Hal's Hackers which had been organized by Hal Hart. He also played organized softball and basketball with local leagues for many years. He still plays hoops with the dads at his church, St. Lawrence Martyr. He is a fan of the LA Dodgers and has been a Dodger season ticket holder since 1960.

In addition to sports, he and his wife sing in the choir at church. He also sings in the Northrup Grumman Chorale. He and his wife enjoy traveling, especially cruising. 'We have accrued about 200 cruise days

so far.' Mike exclaims, 'My favorite part of cruising is that it feels like a floating resort. It is also fun to visit other places, but I love sea days!'

Mike also spends time visiting and helping his mom.

The couple recently bought a timeshare in South Lake Tahoe which they really enjoy.

Mike has been a member of Omnilore for the past two years. He enjoys 'the mental stimulation and social interaction, especially the in-person classes. He has taken a Shakespeare class and short story classes, but enjoyed the class, 'Secret Life of Groceries,' where he learned the background of how we get food.

Mike repeats a retirement philosophy: 'Don't be afraid to embrace your inner inefficiency'.

Mike and Sue host Manhattan Mondays on many Mondays and, as suspected, Manhattans are the specialty of the house, but they do boast 'a full bar of possibilities.' Everyone is welcome, but do be sure that Mike and Sue are in town.



It takes a village to make our Omnilore program work! The Curriculum Committee, our Administrative Assistant (Johan Smith) and the intrepid schedulers (Ruth Hart and Dennis Bosch) all devote many hours to selecting new topics, to getting those choices to our members, and to creating S/DGs that work with our schedules. The next step is where you come in. Our recruitment team will be asking many of you to consider being a coordinator or co-coordinator for one of these classes during the week of November 6 to 13 for the spring 2025 term. If you have done the job before, you know that much of the work has already been done - templates provided, a to-do list, and a comprehensive training meeting that will answer your questions. That meeting is scheduled for November 20th at 10 am on Zoom. If you haven't been a coordinator before, volunteer to be a co-coordinator! It's the best way to see what's required.



Karol McQueary
Head Coordinator

It's the best way to see what's required.

I would like to thank Denise DeVenuto for serving these past three years as Head Coordinator. I think you will agree that she ensured that all coordinators received the training and support they needed! Now we are transitioning to a new Head Coordinator, and I will be taking over that position. I'm always available for support or to answer questions. Just email me at karolmcqueary@gmail.com.

Omnilore Profile: Susan Strauss

by Shera Dolmatz

Susan Straus has brought a lot of energy to Omnilore. She organized the lifestyle S/DG for members who share a common interest. She has introduced thought-provoking and interesting speakers to the Omnilore Forums. She has brought her enthusiasm for Omnilore as our membership chairman informing area seniors about the benefits and fellowship of Omnilore.

Susan grew up in El Paso, Texas, but decided to go to Whittier College in Whittier, CA. Her most memorable experience as a student occurred when she was studying abroad in Copenhagen in 1969. While in Europe, a group of students with a guide went to Berlin which was divided by the Wall. She explained, “a few of us went to East Berlin on our own. We had so many experiences which made her so grateful to be an American.”

Susan returned to Whittier College to complete her studies and become a Social Studies teacher. At that time, there was little demand for that specialty in area high schools. One of her professors encouraged her to specialize in another area. She decided to take advantage of a program at Cal State Long Beach to obtain a credential to teach Driver’s Education. That credential enabled her to find a teaching position at Northview High School in Covina.

On her first day, the principal gave her an additional assignment to teach health classes. She had never taken a health class, but accepted the challenge. She taught her students the dangers of alcohol, tobacco, and drug use. She also provided First Aid instruction. As a Girl Scout Troop Leader for seven years, she taught First Aid to her troop.

Susan was also involved in leading many high school extra-curricular activities including coach of a Model UN, Mock Trials, Academic Decathlon, and Odyssey of the Mind. She also supervised students who built a solar-powered car that they raced from Dallas to San Antonio. The students won 2nd place!

Susan retired from Northview High School after teaching there for 37 years. She soon realized that she missed teaching. On a lark, she applied to Bishop Montgomery High School and taught there for 12 ½ years.

After graduating college, Susan married and had two daughters – Talya and Naomi. Talya is a professor at Cal State University – Channel Islands and Naomi oversees water management for Native American Tribes for the Bureau of Land Management in Durango, Colorado.

Susan enjoys spending time with her grandchildren. Her grandson, Noah, helped her to research relevant coins for an Omnilore presentation.

Susan married her second husband, who is a retired teacher and football coach. Chuck leads Sierra Club members on hikes into the wilderness. Susan and Chuck enjoy hiking together. They enjoy mountain climbing and even climbed Mt. Whitney!

Susan is a fitness buff and pursues body building. She also has taken Jazzercise and weight training. Staying physically fit and healthy is important to her.

For now, Susan’s life revolves around her husband, brother and her many friends – some she has recruited to join Omnilore. Omnilore is a huge part of her life. She likes the in-person classes because, “I want to be with others.” She loves the people in Omnilore and has made so many good friends. She notes that Omniloreans are smart and non-judgmental.

To Susan, the best part of retirement is Omnilore. Her advice to new retirees is ‘Join Omnilore’.



LA Field Trip Lifestyle Group

by Leslie Criswell

Want to have fun, socialize and get out with friends to explore the multitude of places, events, and activities in our own backyard? Come join our Omnilore Field Trip group to pitch your good ideas and help plan for more in 2024 and 2025!

We’ve been going strong now for over a year and a half, and have activities planned every month, which have included:

- ↳ visiting gorgeous botanic gardens (Descanso and Huntington Gardens)
- ↳ fascinating museums (the Norton Simon, LA Science Center, Nixon Library and Museum, the Museum of Jurassic Technology, the Reagan Museum and Li-

brary, and The Nethercutt)

- ↳ great theater performances (by the Torrance Theater Company, the Westchester Playhouse and the Getty Malibu Greek amphitheater)

- ↳ a Duffy boat tour and more.

Also, we generally manage to include time to dine together, enjoy a tasty meal and good conversation - making new friends along the way!

We have lots of exciting ideas and plans in the works, so come join us!

More Info – Leslie Criswell – Lcriswell3@gmail.com



Notes from the Editor

by Joan Kolic, Omnimore News Editor



I am always puzzled that there is so much emphasis on physical exercise and diet as the basis for a healthy lifestyle in our senior years. To me, maintaining an active mind is the most important part of aging.

Being able to learn new skills, geriatric specialists tell us, is essential to maintaining an active mind.

Omnimore provides us with the essential ingredients to thrive.

Our S/DG's offer a wide array of subjects for us to choose – science, history, literature, and even music. Our classes give us an opportunity to learn and share new ideas with others. Everyone listens to our presentations that we worked so hard to prepare. Our voice and perspective matter!

Our lifestyle classes give us the opportunity to socialize and enjoy the culture and restaurants in LA. We are social animals by nature, so we tend to function better when we are around others. Socialization is one of the most effective ways to improve mood, cognition and memory recall. Most importantly, Omnimore offers us the opportunity to develop good meaningful friendships.

This newsletter endeavors to inform you of all the recent Omnimore activities. Please read our stories.

I hope that you will write an article to share your activities and thoughts with us. We look forward to reading your news.

Jim North: Do Not Disappear!



In our rapidly changing world, the adage that DEATH, TAXES and CHANGE survives as a truth for all the ages. In the interest of polite society, we ignore and don't talk about the first two and try to pretend that the last and most dramatic isn't happening. My fellow Omnimoreans, do yourself a huge favor and recognize and accept that the genie is out of the bottle and is here to stay.

In reality, you have experienced this all your life. Silent movies were a marvel, but talkies were better yet in color. Surround sound and orchestrated music enveloped you into the film, touching your very essence. Leeches and bleeding were abandoned in favor of MRIs, X-rays, etc. All this gradual and dramatic CHANGE you recognized and accepted as part of

your generation. The introduction of high-speed computers gave humans a tool to address and shape a different future for humanity going forward. Younger people grew up with this high-speed technology and easily adapted to its rapid advancement and change.

Older citizens like you and I struggle with the complexity of this new age. It is a struggle, and a battle that must be joined. Set a goal to understand the workings of wi-fi, internet, computers and artificial intelligence. Reach out to younger family members for one-on-one instructions to use this information and programs. Reconnect through FACETIME, MAIL and PHOTOS, with family members who no longer live down the street, but half-way around the world. Get to know them better and be a factor in their children's lives.

Step into this new age with courage and determination and add real meaning to your precious Golden Years!

Susan Strauss: Behind the Kitchen Door

Those Omnimoreans who have been curious about what it is like in the kitchen or a restaurant or what's involved in being a manager of a restaurant have joined the Lifestyle class, 'Behind the Kitchen Door'.

Those members who were interested in being involved in this group met at Susan Straus' home and discussed the trajectory for the project. It was agreed that every month, two members, working as a team would research local restaurants and arrange with the manager or owner to speak with us as we ate lunch or dinner there.

On June 24, **Selma Wheaton** and **Irene Berlin** organized a visit to Belle Epoque restaurant in Hollywood Riviera. Belle Epoque's vibe is Havana meets old Paris and provides not only casual and sophisticated menu but features live acts from new talent.

In July with **Barbara Case** and **Peter Shackle** we visited 'The Good Stuff' in Palos Verdes. 'Good Stuff' also has locations in El Segundo, Hermosa Beach and Redondo Beach. The owner, Chris Bennett, enthusiastically spoke to us about how he was inspired to open a health-conscious restaurant and answered our questions. He discussed how he motivates his employees by treating them as family, and how the members of his own family pitch in to work on weekends or when they are home from college.

On August 9, **Judi Carter** and **Joan Kolic** arranged a visit along with the S/DG 'Food In History Class,' to La Siciliana. This restaurant had been recommended by **Patti Laney**. The owner, Rita Morena, immigrated from Italy where she learned how to prepare Sicilian meals. The food was a testament to her dedication and skills. We all enjoyed her tasty, authentic Italian food and committed to revisit La Siciliana.

Those participating in 'Behind the Kitchen Door' Lifestyle activity look forward to learning first-hand from the owners about the restaurant business and enjoy delicious meals. We all look forward to continuing our upcoming restaurant visits in this fun S/DG.

Omniole STEM Special Interest Group

by Michael Feygin

The Omniole STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Meaning) Special Interest Group has been meeting very successfully now for over two years. Our group offers stimulating science-related discussion in a very casual and enjoyable social setting. We've been meeting every two months (with a larger break in the summer). At each meeting, one member of the group agrees to select a topic and facilitate a discussion about that topic at the next meeting. Almost all of our topics have revolved around hour-long YouTube science videos (mostly, these are interviews or lectures on specific science subjects). Each facilitator picks the videos and develops discussion questions to send out to the group in advance of the meeting. Recent discussions have included:

1. Future of Manufacturing
2. Recent advances in anti-aging medicine,
3. Brian Kelley's ideas about "inevitable" future trends in technology,
4. Jeff Hawkins' Thousand Brain Theory, and
5. The science behind trees "communicating" with each other via their roots. Our next meeting will be dedicated to the advances in Humanoid Robots.

We hold our meetings inside the homes or in the backyards of our members. Most of the meetings have taken place at Michael Feygin's home. We begin the meetings by sharing a casual potluck dinner with wine and other beverages. Then we gather around a table, in a living or family room, or outside on the patio (depending on the weather) and that's when the topic discussion begins. Discussions have always been fun, social and lively.

Our meetings are two hours in length, starting at 5 p.m. and ending at 7 p.m.

We are much more than just a discussion group; we are also very much a social group of Omnioleans who love science. In the beginning, invitations to join the group were sent to all Omnioleans who had signed up for Omniole science S/DGs in the previous year. But we want to make it clear that we are open to all Omnioleans who have an avid interest in science. Please consider joining our group. If you'd like to join, please email our STEM SIG Coordinator, Michael Feygin at mfeygin1@gmail.com. Please, cc Dennis Bosch dennis.bosch@gmail.com to have him add you to the e-mail list for the group.

Be Civilized

by Joan Kolic

Years ago, anthropologist Margaret Mead was asked what she considered to be the first sign of civilization in a culture.

Mead said that the first sign of civilization in an ancient culture was a femur (thighbone) that had been broken and then healed. Mead explained that in the animal kingdom, if you break your leg, you die.

You cannot run from danger, get to the river for a drink or hunt for food. You are meat for prowling beasts. No animal survives a broken leg long enough for the bond to heal.

A broken femur that has healed is evidence that someone has taken time to stay with the one who fell. Has bound up the wound, has carried the person to safety and has tended the person through recovery. Helping someone else through difficulty is where civilization starts, Mead said.

We are at our best when we serve others. Be civilized.

Ira Byock.



From upper left: Bob Bacinski, (Allen) Ace Rosen, Geri Chaudri, Rich Mansfield., Michael Feygin, Tom Vincent, Michael Costello, Barbara Case, and a partial of Petrina Long. This is Michael Feygin's backyard in Rancho Palos Verdes.

Adrian Pruetz: Bring a Friend to Movies with Friends



Have you wondered about the best way to introduce a friend to Omniole? One successful way is to take advantage of Omniole's one-time guest policy, which allows you to bring a guest to an Omniole class or activity one time, to introduce your guest to the Omniole program. Bringing a friend to Movies with Friends has proven to be an easy and successful way to introduce potential new members to Omniole.

For Movies with Friends, the coordinator rather than the participants does the advance preparation, selecting a thought-provoking film and preparing a set of discussion-prompting questions. But Movies with Friends operates like any Omniole study/discussion group in following the presentation with a robust discussion of the ideas, themes, and issues it raises.

Since its inception, Movies with Friends has attracted an excellent group of film fans for its monthly showing, and the post-film discussions just flow. So why not introduce a friend to Omniole by joining us at Movies with Friends. For more information, email coordinator Adrian Pruetz at ampruetz@gmail.com.

In Memoriam - Ruth Bloland

Ruth Marion Nolte was born in Wisconsin in January 1929. She lived a remarkable 95 years, leaving behind a legacy of love, learning, and adventure.

Ruth's educational journey began at the University of Wisconsin, where she earned her BA. She furthered her studies with a Master of Science in Education from Drake University and completed her PhD in Education at the University of Southern California.

Her passion for teaching led her to a fulfilling career as a high school mathematics teacher, a role she embraced with dedication until her retirement. Even after retiring, Ruth continued to share her love for learning by tutoring students for many years.

In 1951, Ruth married Paul A. Bloland, with whom she shared a deep and enduring partnership until his passing



in 1998. They had two sons: Eric who became a medical doctor, and Peter who became a veterinarian with two degrees. They moved to Southern California when Paul became a professor at USC.

Ruth was an avid traveler, having explored over 100 countries throughout her lifetime. Her journeys were marked by a keen interest in collecting folk art, reflecting her appreciation for diverse cultures and traditions. She also found joy in hiking, river rafting, and canoeing. Later in life, Ruth discovered a new passion for running, becoming a dedicated runner and completing several marathons.

She will be remembered for her indomitable spirit, intellectual curiosity, and the joy she brought to those around her.

Ruth joined Omnilore in April 2007 and left after 2014 to attend to some health issues. She was 85 when she left our membership. She passed away on August 7, 2024, at her home in Rancho Palos Verdes, surrounded by her sons and the love of her life, a poodle named McGee.

Please Vote!



Early vote-by-mail ballot voting period is from October 7 through November 5, 2024.

Polls are open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM on November 5 - Election Day

Dates to remember

October 7

County election officials will begin mailing vote by mail ballots on or before this date.

October 7 - November 5

Voting period to return vote-by mail-ballot

October 21

Last date to register to vote. Same day voter registration is available at your county elections office or voting location after the voter registration deadline, up to and including Election Day.

Jim North: Wait...What!

In the very near future shopping for groceries will have a new twist as A/I engineers this human undertaking.

Your conveyance, whatever it may be, will be guided to a holding space after it deposits you to the doors of the establishment. The doors part and you are greeted by name and your PIN. A personal robot KIM will greet you again and ask you how you are doing and how's the family.



KIM will escort you to a special area where your order of prepackaged grocery items is situated on a device called BOB. This device scans your basket and advises you that your ground coffee level purchases are inadequate for your projected needs and an additional pound was added to your order. The device then comments on the lack of fiber you have purchased over the last month and quotes the latest statistics from M.D./A-I, as required by law, a

copy of this report is sent to your personal DOC/A-I and your A-I life insurance carrier for additional action.

Happy A/I approaches and offers you a moist towelette for you

face and a spritz of a universal, non-allergenic, unsweetened, cologne. You are quoted the Vegas odds on the evening's NFL game and an opportunity to join, with a guaranteed win. Your conveyance arrives and before the conveyance door lifts, you are notified that your driver's license has expired and a substitute driver called ANGEL will drive you to your original starting point. A notice of this situation will be reported to DMV for further action. WHAT...WAIT!

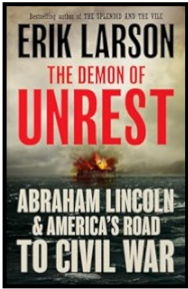


Omniole Book Club—Forming Up!

by Joan Kolic

If you enjoy reading and discussing interesting books, please consider joining Omniole's Book Club. We want to re-start the Best Sellers SIG idea and focus on fiction and nonfiction bestsellers. If you are interested, please contact Joan Kolic or Leslie Criswell. Meanwhile, sample from our delicious selections below!

Joan – 424-378-2440—Koljn7831@gmail.com; Leslie – 310-809-4365; lcriswell3@gmail.com



The Demon of Unrest : A Saga of Hubris, Heartbreak, and Heroism at the Dawn of the Civil War, by Eric Larson

Non-Fiction

#1 New York Times Bestseller focuses on the pivotal 5 months between the election of Abraham Lincoln and the start of the Civil War. Erik Larson provides a gripping account of the chaotic months between Lincoln's election and the Confederacy's shelling of Fort Sumter – a period marked by tragic errors and miscommunications, enflamed egos and craven ambitions, personal tragedies and betrayals. Lincoln himself wrote that the trials of these 5 months were 'so great that, could I have anticipated them, I would not have believed it possible to survive them.

Drawing on diaries, secret communiques, slave ledgers, and plantation records, Larson gives us a political horror story that captures the forces that led America to the brink – a dark reminder that we often don't see a cataclysm coming until it's too late.

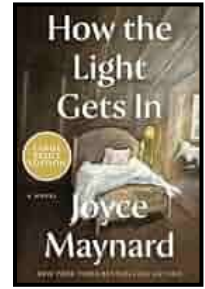
How the Light Gets In, by Joyce Maynard

Fiction

This book was recommended by Patricia Edie who noted that the book moved her to tears.

This is a follow up to her novel *Count the Ways* that follows a complex story of three generations of a family and its remarkable, resilient, indomitable matriarch, Eleanor.

This book follows Eleanor and her family through fifteen years (2010 – 2024) as their story plays out against a uniquely American backdrop and events that transforms their world (climate change, school violence) and shape their lives (later-life love, parental alienation, steadfast friendship). With sensitivity and insight, Joyce Maynard paints an indelible portrait of characters both familiar and new making their way over rough, messy and treacherous terrain to find their way to what is, for each, a place to call 'home'.



Report on the June 28th Forum Speaker:

June Forum, 2024: "Celebrating America"

by Susan Strauss

As Omnioleans walked into the Forum venue on June 28th, they were struck by the decorations and table settings, "Celebrating America." In order to start celebrating July 4th, some members wore hats and outfits to remind everyone of the joy of being an American.

As always, everyone was happily mingling with their classmates and with others they had not seen in a long time. Then lunch was served which consisted of tri tip steak, corn on the cob, grilled veggies, potato and garden salads, and for dessert, cherry pie a la mode. Everyone exclaimed that the food was the best ever of the Forums they ever attended.

Before the keynote speaker came to the podium, Karol McQueary reported on upcoming activities, especially the picnic to take place on August 2nd and the next Forum. Susan then introduced the guest speaker, Carter Dillard. He enlightened us about the Fair Start Movement of which he is the co-founder. He incorporated the history of children's rights all over the world including a program dealing with the issue which began with the establishment of the United Nations in 1948. His desire is to be the guardian of that program and to raise awareness of it among the public. In fact, an Omnioleean asked Carter to speak to his service club, and another member showed keen interest in the project and is now communicating with Carter.

Overall, the Forum of June 28, 2024 was memorable and an inspiration for looking forward to the next one.



Susan Strauss, Forum Chair
with
Carter Dillard, Speaker

Getting to Know You

A good time was had by all who attended the Omnilore Picnic on August 2 at Wilson Park. Our President, Dennis Bosch, wanted to have a social gathering where we all get together to socialize - chat and share our activities and experiences. Dennis noted that most S/DG's are held on Zoom where members have limited opportunity to converse. The end result is that we are just faces on a screen giving presentations and having book discussions. Most of us missed the classroom meetings where we could also talk and share our activities and experiences.

Thus, he suggested that a picnic could fill that void..

A committee, including Karol McQueary, Susan Straus, Leslie Criswell and Joan Kolic was formed to look into various sites. Wilson Park seemed to be the obvious choice as it was centrally located, had ample parking and was a natural setting with plenty of picnic tables and shaded trees. The park also had accommodations for easy access for those with limitations.

Deborah Hawkins made a \$100 donation to cover park fees. Thank you, Deborah.

Members responded enthusiastically to having a picnic and bringing their favorite dish to share.

Although it was a warm and sunny day, we enjoyed sitting under the shade trees and enjoying the delicious foods. To better enjoy our surroundings, Joy Jurena had to clean off the picnic tables as the birds were literally party poopers. We were treated to so many special dishes including appetizers from Lori Spillane, potato salad from Judi Carter, and chocolate chip cookies from Denise DeVenuto. etc. Everyone enjoyed the delicious foods that we had.

Susan Straus organized games to play including "Getting to Know You Bingo", Gater Cornhole, Velcro toss and catch. Prizes were given to all who participated.

We all had a wonderful time, and everyone left with a smile.



Some Attendees' Comments

What a great picnic. What a great social event to let Omniloreans get better acquainted in a relaxed setting with no time limits. Thanks to the committee members who planned and worked to make this a success. Rick and I thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. We'll make sure to safeguard Rick's gold trophy for winning the beanbag toss so it can become a revolving trophy for next year! Shady location, lots of tables, privacy & free parking - good choice. We would love to see this become an annual event.

Lori Spillane

Pauline and I had a wonderful time meeting everyone at the Omnilore Picnic today.

I want to thank you for all the special efforts that you and the other volunteers put into this successful picnic.

Hopefully, we can have other similar social events in the future.

Thanks to everyone's contribution,

Al (Ace) and Pauline Rosen

Some Smiles from the August 2nd Picnic



1. Judi Carter (seated) and other name is unknown; 2. Joann & Brian Bailey; 3. Mimi Lau & husband, Joseph; 4. Pauline & Ace Rosen; 5. Richard Reilly and wife, Judi; 6. Jean Steinmetz ; 7. Lori & Rick Spillane; 8. Bill Gargaro; 9. Joy Jurena; 10. Susan Strauss; 11. Karol McQueary; 12. Name Unknown.

Thanks to Lori Spillane for these wonderful pictures!

Lifestyle Activities – Create Memories and Form Bonds that Extend Beyond Just the Meetings!

by Leslie Criswell

Omnilore's Lifestyle activities started out approximately two years ago with a small group of us throwing out random ideas for a platform that would provide more opportunities for us to get together. We already had the Walking Group, but wanted more.

Early ideas included Game Night, Bicycle Maintenance (true!), Sustainable Gardening and a Trivial Pursuits competition. The games activities were short-lived, but Movies with Friends (contact Adrian Pruetz if interested) and our Field Trip group (contact Leslie Criswell, if interested) flourished, so we added Creative Writing (contact Deborah Hawkins if interested), and most recently Behind the Kitchen Door (contact Susan Strauss, if interested) - where we learn from local restaurant owners/managers/chefs about their businesses, and get to enjoy a great meal with good company in the process!

Your Lifestyles group wants to bring back an Omnilore Book Club, so look for information on that very soon.

When you join any of our Lifestyle activities, you're stepping into another Omnilore community where connections are made, friendships are nurtured and experiences are shared. Whether you're looking to expand your circle, explore new interests or simply find like-minded people to enjoy your time with, these social groups are fun, and offer the perfect opportunity to enrich your life. So join us and discover the joys of community!

For more information:

Behind the Kitchen Door – Susan Straus – suzycrat@yahoo.com

Field Trips – Leslie Criswell – Lcriswell3@gmail.com

Movies with Friends – Adrian Pruetz – ampruetz@gmail.com

Making The World a Better Place: Jean Steinmetz

by Joan Kolic

Jean Steinmetz has been a volunteer her whole life. She has focused her energy on caring for children with special needs. Jean told me that she has had a special place in her heart since these children were once considered 'outcasts'.

Jean obtained a BA in Art from St. Elizabeth College in 1968 and a BS in Education from Indiana University in 1972. She also obtained a degree from LA Salle University in Interior Design.

Her husband, Bob, was hired at Bethlehem Steel in Gary, Indiana. While living there, she taught art in grades K-12 and developed the patience and sensitivity needed to show special needs students a wide variety of skills. She was challenged by teaching those children life skills and was proud when they mastered how to cut with scissors.

They moved to Riverside when her husband accepted a position at Kaiser Steel in Fontana. After eight years there, her husband went to work at Hughes Aircraft and consequently, they moved to Manhattan Beach. She taught the 'Art at Your Fingertips' program at her daughters' elementary school in Manhattan Beach.

She always loved artistic crafts so she opened and managed a country gift shop 'Sally Jean's Mercantile' in El Segundo for 10 years.

Jean loved explaining and sharing memorable sites with visitors and obtained a Tour Guide Certificate at Saddleback College and became a tour director for nine years.

She accepted a position at Banning Residence Museum in



Wilmington where for 12 years, she was a docent, continuing education director, as well as manager of the 'Norris Gift Shop'.

From 2009 – 2016, She managed the gift shop at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium in San Pedro.

Her wide range of volunteer activities includes helping her daughter's dance class at Power Academy of Irish Dancing.

She is President of the Manhattan Beach Senior Club and coordinates their bingo and white elephant sales at the Joelyn Center.

She has also served as Vice President as well as on the Board of Directors for the Exceptional Kids Organization: South Bay for eight years,

In 2012 she was named by the National Association of Professional Business Women – 'Woman of the Year'

She also sponsors four children in need: two in Ecuador through the Unbound program and two in Madagascar through Children's

International.

Jean also cared for her husband as he had undergone six surgeries from November through June. She feels so blessed as he is now cancer free.

Although she has such a busy schedule, she finds time to be a coordinator for Omnilore S/DG's and is a founding member of Lifestyle Field Trip outings.

Jean has lots of energy and a friendly smile for all. She has given so much for exceptional children and the community, Jean has definitely made the world a better place.

OMNILORE
CALENDAR
2024

September	1	Fall Trimester Starts
	2	Labor Day
	19	Management Council Meeting—12 Noon, L8/Hybrid
	22	Fall Starts
October	2-4	Rosh Hashanah
	9	Management Council Meeting—12 Noon, L8//Hybrid
	11-12	Yom Kippur
	14	Columbus Day
	17	Introducing Omnilore Meeting—10 a.m., Via Zoom
	31	Burt Cutler Memorial Annual Meeting and Forum —11:00 a.m., Original Red Onion (see article, page 1)
November	5	Election Day
	11	Veterans Day
	13	Introducing Omnilore Meeting—1:00 p.m., Via Zoom
	14	Management Council Meeting—12 Noon, L8/Hybrid
	20	Coordinator Information Meeting—10 a.m., Via Hybrid
	28	Thanksgiving
December	12	Management Council Meeting—12 Noon, L8/Hybrid
	15	Input Deadline for February 2025 Newsletter
	25	Christmas

2024 Forums

Winter—February 28th
 Summer—June 30th
 Annual Mtg.—October 31st

IMPORTANT:

Calendar changes and additions
 are scheduled with Sharon Bohner
Calendar@omnilore.org



Help is Always Appreciated

The famous Italian diver Enzo Maiorca dove into the Sea of Syracuse and felt something slightly hit his back. He turned and saw a dolphin. The dolphin did not want to play but seemed to express something. The animal dove and Enzo followed. The dolphin led him to another dolphin trapped in an abandoned net. Enzo used a diving knife and managed to free the dolphin, which at the end of the ordeal, emerged and issued an ‘almost human cry’. (A dolphin can stay under water for up to 10 minutes, then it drowns.)

The released dolphin was helped to the surface by Enzo and the other dolphin. That’s when the surprise came: she was pregnant!

The male circled them, and then stopped in front of Enzo, touched his cheek, in a gesture of gratitude and then they both swam off.

Enzo Maiorca noted in amazement, “Until man learns to respect and speak to the animal world, he can never know his true role on earth.”



INTRODUCING OMNILORE MEETINGS:

Thursday, Oct. 17th - 10 a.m.
 Wednesday, Nov. 13th - 1 p.m.

Help Spread the Word! RSVP 310 428-8957

The
Next

Via
Zoom

