



OMNIOLORE NEWS



Volume 24 Issue 4

www.omnilore.org

July 2015

DON'T MISS – IN THIS ISSUE

<u>President's Message</u>	<u>Page 2</u>
<u>Next Intro. Omnilore Meeting</u>	<u>Page 2</u>
<u>Profile: Jerry & Zelda Green</u>	<u>Page 3</u>
<u>Calling all Coordinators</u>	<u>Page 4</u>
<u>Omnilore: The CSUDH OLLI</u>	<u>Page 5</u>
<u>Years 2003-2015</u>	<u>Page 6</u>
	<u>Page 7</u>
<u>Best Sellers SIG</u>	<u>Page 8</u>
<u>The Bookshelf</u>	<u>Page 9</u>
<u>Forum Registration Form</u>	<u>Page 9</u>
<u>Calendar</u>	<u>Page 10</u>
<u>In Memoriam</u>	<u>Page 10</u>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Elected Officers

President	Art Irizarry
VP - Academics	Kathleen Fitzgerald
VP - Administration	Linda Jensen
Treasurer	Gary Nofziger
Recording Secretary	Gloria Dumais
Past President	Howard Korman
Member-at-Large	Kate Nelson
Member-at-Large	Frank Reiner
Member-at-Large	Vacant

Standing Committee Chairs

Membership	Florence Murphy
Forum	Lori Geittmann
Communications	Mary Golob
Curriculum	Rick Spillane
Head Coordinator	Marilyn Brashear

Appointees

Registrar	Vickie Volchok
SADG Scheduling	Ruth & Hal Hart
Office Manager	TBD
Room Scheduling	Lynn Taber
Laptop Administrator	Rick Spillane
Equipment	Hal Hart
Supplies	Jill McKenzie
Webmasters	Hal Hart
	Dennis Goodno

Omnilore Celebrates 25 Years at the July Forum

by Lori Geittmann

You retire and then what? For Omnilore members we know how to spend our retirement years thanks to the late Burt Cutler. It was Burt who rounded up a small group to create our organization.

As we celebrate our 25th year, we remember all those programs and groups which help us expand our minds and enjoy lifelong learning. Who knew that Omnilore would grow to more than 300 members or that new friendships would be formed?



UCLA Student String Quartet—"The Artists"

To remind us of the joys of our study groups, the experiences of travel-study and the fellowship of interest groups, we will have a special program on Omnilore history at the July 30 Forum luncheon.

For our newer Omnilore members, our past may suggest new ideas for future programs as they take on leadership roles. For example, some may wish to revive our chess club while others may wish to propose a new study-travel program.

Don't be surprised to see your picture show up on the PowerPoint display that is part of the program. We have dug into our archives for some interesting photos.

A special treat at the luncheon will be a UCLA string quartet performance. The Artists Quartet members all have graduated with Master's degrees in music from the UCLA Alpert School of Music. This quartet will present classic works from the string quartet repertoire. Members of the quartet currently enjoy versatile careers as music educators and performers, performing and recording for several ensembles throughout the Los Angeles area. The artists were also selected as finalists in some of the country's most prestigious chamber music competitions.

Menu will be salmon, scalloped potatoes, mixed vegetables, Caesar salad and chocolate mousse cake.

Reservations must be in by July 20. See reservations form on page 9.

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 Art Irizarry

A warm welcome to new and prospective members from your president, the Board of Directors and our many long-term members. We hope you enjoy your experience as much as we do. Please feel free to ask questions, provide suggestions and contribute your volunteer service to any activity, or function, of Omnilore where you feel your participation can make a difference. Join the rest of us and learn more about Omnilore.

This is the only newsletter for the Summer trimester. I hope all of you are enjoying Summer and looking forward to our Fall trimester, which will have another outstanding offering of study and discussion group (S/DG) topics from the Curriculum Committee. Votes have been collected from all members and scheduling of selected topics is in progress. Please remit your registration forms and fees as early as possible. Early responses help us accelerate assignment of classrooms and will provide enough time for your group to schedule its "pre-meeting" and prepare its plan for the trimester's activities.

Our 25th Anniversary Celebration planning continues under the leadership of Lori Geitmann and a committee which includes Diana Cutler, Helen Leven, Blanche Herring, John Taber, Carol Kerster, Nancy Shannon, Anne Faass and me. Helen Leven and Blanche Herring are involved in outreach to early members (1990-2000). As you read this article, luncheon preparations have been in full gear for two months, involving about twenty volunteers. "The Artists," a string quartet of graduate students from the UCLA Alpert School of Music, will provide music during the reception and luncheon. Their performance is a

gift in honor of Omnilore founders and all the volunteers who have made Omnilore a dynamic, enriching and enduring institution. There will be other *divertissement* for your enjoyment at the Celebration. Hal Hart, Howard Korman and Johan Smith have contributed to the effort along with other volunteers, who have been recruited on an ongoing basis and will be given recognition in another newsletter.

Aside from the music provided by "The Artists" during the reception and luncheon, the Celebration general program consists of the reception 11:00 am -12 pm, luncheon 12-1pm, celebratory program 1-1:30 pm, and "Future of Omnilore" session 1:30-2pm. Your early reservations will be appreciated to facilitate the catering order and setup of the dining area. Reservations information is available online, by email and, if you chose communication by U.S. mail, posted to you. Join your friends and classmates for a wonderful afternoon celebrating what -- together -- we have created, developed and maintained for 25 years.

As part of our 25th anniversary, our Board and others in leadership positions have undertaken an update of our Bylaws, operating rules and procedures. For many years Carol Johnson, an early member, conducted an annual update through individuals in the positions covered by the procedures. This year the update is being done in a comprehensive manner, starting with the Bylaws, to ensure consistency and continuity within our organizational structure and practices. Relationships with outside agencies have changed, some procedures have required change with the move to the Edison Center, new needs have arisen and some functions may no longer be necessary. Linda Jenson has

chaired the committee, which has included participation by Carol Johnson, Hal Hart, Rick Spillane and me. The Board will vote on an updated Bylaws draft. In September all Omnilore members will be sent a copy of the updated Bylaws draft for consideration and feedback to the Board. We will vote on the Bylaws during our Annual Meeting in October.

My apology to Kate Nelson and Hal Hart for omitting their names from mention of Plan B Committee members in an earlier newsletter. Kate Nelson has been at the forefront of the alternative facility search, focusing on civic, non-profit and religious facilities. Hal Hart's contributions to site search have been in the areas of technology viability and space factors once a location has been visited. The committee search for an alternative location has abated after consideration of about twenty sites. Our parking needs have been a major issue in all but one location. At that one site parking was not a problem, but location was considered too far eastward. The Edison Center lease is for five years, which allows time for a continued search for an optimal, if not ideal, location.

Our "Computer Talk" sessions provide a good introduction to various facets of information technology tools, from Google and PowerPoint to free software. I have attended some sessions and found them stimulating. A recent session on "open source" software by Rick Spillane was highly informative. You have access to information from the sessions on our website, some in our password-protected area. Attendance at a "live" session gives you the opportunity to ask questions, which may give the Computer Working Group, sponsor of the "Talks," ideas for

Continued on page 4.



The
Next

INTRODUCING OMNIOLORE MEETING:

Conf. **Thursday, July 23rd - 1:30 p.m.**

Room
B

Help Spread the Word! **RSVP 310-514-1415**



Omnilore Profile—Jerry & Zelda Green

by Kate Nelson

Meet the flower arranger and the sculptor: Zelda and Jerry Green. As you approach the front door of their lovely home in Rancho Palos Verdes, your senses are dazzled by beautiful and fragrant flowers and sculptures as you wait for the front door to open.

Jerry took his first art class from a fellow dentist at the Palos Verdes Art Center. The class featured live nude models. Now he ordinarily creates abstract designs. Then if it doesn't end up looking like what he originally had in mind, that's ok: He can say it's what he really meant in the first place. He sculpts several times during the week—always in the day-time and outside since he usually makes a big mess and lots of noise. He sculpts a variety of media including metals and stones.

Zelda has taken flower arranging classes in Torrance and in your reporter's mind, she could make it a profession, but that's never been her intention. A native Angeleno (Boyle Heights), Zelda attended Theodore Roosevelt High School and Los Angeles Community College and then went to work as a medical secretary. After raising three children with her first husband, she attended USC to earn her degree as an occupational therapist (OT). Zelda used to enjoy singing, but she gave that up and is now active in a book club.

Jerry earned his dental degree at the University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine after beginning his college education at UCLA. His "first practice was in Korea," where he was serving in the Army. By the time he retired 16 years ago, he had an independent practice in Torrance. Jerry was born in Cleveland but moved to L.A. in time to attend Fairfax High School.

Jerry, a widower, and Zelda, a divorcee, were introduced 29 years ago by a mutual friend. For 27 years, they've hosted an annual hiking vacation in Mammoth Mountain for her three children and his three children and ensuing family additions. In Summer 2015 they are breaking with tradition by taking the group of 14 on a cruise to Alaska.

The Greens are avid travelers. Before she had children, Zelda spent 10 weeks in Europe. She says, "I like to meet people—to see how they live." One of their favorite trips as a pair was a Road Scholar trip to the Institute of Art in Chicago. They've



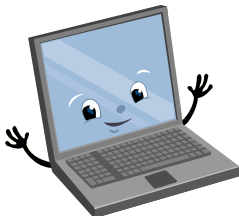
also visited Kenya, Japan, France, Russia, China, Australia, and New Zealand. While one of Jerry's son's was serving in the Peace Corps in Ecuador, they enjoyed a South American trip that started in Buenos Aires and included Rio de Janeiro, Machu Picchu, and of course, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands. On their bucket list: Cuba, Scandinavia, Southeast Asia, and the annual Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Oregon.

In between trips, they stay active--Jerry playing tennis at West End Racquet and Health Club and Zelda doing deep water aerobics and pilates at South End Racquet and Health Club. When not exercising or creating their own art, they spend many hours enjoying theater and concerts. They were long-term subscribers to the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and they've enjoyed many performances at the Geffen Theater and the three downtown theaters.

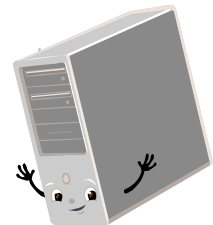
Zelda has been an Omnilorean for about 14 years. She took her first class while still working part-time as an OT. With regard to choosing S/DGs, Zelda likes to select something she knows nothing about. You'll find her in documentary classes and TED Talks classes; she especially enjoyed the TED Talk named "Gulp" that taught her about the digestive system. And she's interested in psychological and sociological issues in society. She finds the research associated with an Omnilore presentation to be very satisfying. And as a people person, she loves to communicate with other Omniloreans during class discussions.

Jerry is a fairly recent Omnilorean. He skips some trimesters, but when he's in an S/DG, it's always with Zelda. He, too, enjoys TED Talks classes because of the wide array of topics available. He's especially attracted to TED's strange topics, including the use of African Giant Pouch Rats to find land mines. These precious rats are easier to train than dogs, and they are better than medics at finding TB. When not studying rats, you'll find Jerry using his computer to do things such as putting together slide shows of their travels. He's recently created a CD filled with his slides from Korea.

Jerry and Zelda are charmers, and what a treat it is to visit their home that is filled with their art. Here's a hint for meeting them: Look for them at your next TED Talks S/DG.



**Computer Talks Is Taking July & August Off!
Look for Us in the
September - October Newsletter**



OMNIOLORE 101 - COORDINATORS

Calling All Coordinators

by Kathleen Fitzgerald, Vice President, Academics

Each trimester, after having chosen the classes in which you might like to participate, you might receive a phone call asking if you would be willing to serve as a coordinator or co-coordinator.

Every class, in order to be scheduled, needs two people willing to serve in that capacity. There can be a coordinator and a co-coordinator, or two co-coordinators.

Some questions you might ask -

What does the coordinator do?

- ✓ Check with the Calendar (scheduling) person, Lynn Taber, to find an unoccupied room, date and time for a pre-meeting.
- ✓ Notify members signed up for the class about the date, time and room for the pre-meeting.
- ✓ Hold the pre-meeting
- ✓ Introduce members
- ✓ Determine specific time for the class, format, who will bring refreshments, etc.
- ✓ Identify members who can set up and operate equipment
- ✓ Pass around a schedule on which members can sign up to give presentations and lead book discussions
- ✓ Preside at meetings
- ✓ Keep the presentation schedule current, giving reminders
- ✓ Facilitate communication among members
- ✓ Keep the class moving along
- ✓ Make sure room is in good condition and equipment stored at the end of each session.

What help do coordinators get?

Before each trimester begins, the Head Coordinator offers a class answering all the questions you might have. A template is furnished on the Omnimore website for use in setting up a schedule (<http://www.omnilore.org/members/Forms5.shtml>).

Our members are as eager as you to have a pleasant and productive experience. You can expect plenty of cooperation and help.

If you are asked to be a coordinator or co-coordinator, please consider saying "Yes."



Message from the President—Continued from page 2.

future sessions. Our volunteer technology instructors provide us access to their wide-ranging, deep experience with technology. They are our classmates and familiar with how to communicate with those of us who are just learning, or interested in adding to our technology and presentation skills and knowledge. Thanks to the volunteer instructors.

Coordinators/Co-coordinators are always in demand. Every activity we offer depends on volunteer leaders, either a coordinator and a substitute coordinator, or two co-coordinators who share the leadership. What they are called has been discussed at several Board meetings, but ultimately the title does not matter. What matters is that every activity must have a leader and a backup leader to ensure smooth functioning. This tradition of Omnimore, volunteer leadership, has been upheld since Omnimore was founded. If a study and discussion group does not have a coordinator, it cannot be held. Consider volunteering as a coordinator or co-coordinator for your group. Training is provided by the Head Coordinator, **Marilyn Brashear**, and supported by **Kathleen Fitzgerald**, our Vice-President of Academics, and other volunteer trainers. You also have access to experienced coordinators, who will mentor you as you develop your coordinator skills. In addition, your group members will support you by helping with equipment setup and cleanup after each session. It's an interesting way to become acquainted with classmates and other Omnimoreans.

Join us for the 25th Anniversary Celebration, Thursday, July 30th, 11:00am-2pm, at the Los Verdes Country Club, Rancho Palos Verdes.

Omnilore: The CSUDH OLLI Years 2003-2015

by Art Irizarry

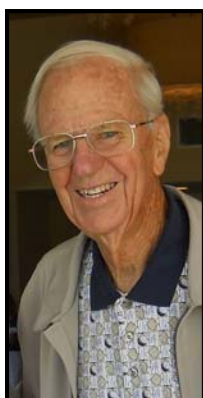
Mike Scordan and John Taber were the major sources of this condensed history of Omnilore’s first 25 years. Mike joined the group in 1990, Omnilore’s first year, and John joined in 1991, its second activity year. All Omnilore newsletters are now available online from 1992, when the first newsletter was issued, to the present.



Mike Scordan

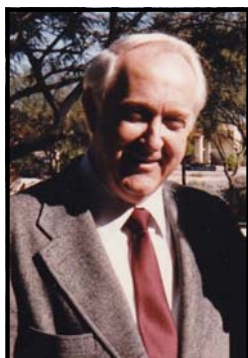
During the period between affiliation with the University in 1992 and the Osher Foundation grant in 2003 for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at CSUDH, Omnilore grew, gradually increasing the number of participants, creating a more clearly defined organizational structure, and incrementally improving procedures and practices.

In 1994, when John Taber became the second president of Omnilore, he proposed and worked with the Board of Directors to develop procedures to “ensure a stable and purposeful organization.” He worked with Board members to define operations by compiling lists of responsibilities, tasks and timelines associated with the discharge of duties by each Board member. Over the course of the next few years, additions and changes were made to increase clarity, improve efficiency and cover as much of the organizational operations as needed.



*John Taber
Second President
1994*

That effort, along with the Bylaws developed in 1992, secured the future of Omnilore during a short period of turbulence in Omnilore politics. **Fred Kiefer**, fourth president of Omnilore, had strong ideas as to how to improve the organization, but allowed for limited input from Board members or others. In reaction to his attempt to impose his view by taking “liberties in choosing who should be on the ballot and how Omnilore should be run,” a small group prepared a slate of officers as an alternative to what Kiefer presented and then informed all members. Kiefer attempted to postpone the election but the group used Robert’s Rules of Order to thwart Kiefer and ensure the election was conducted as scheduled. The group recruited **Burt Cutler**, Omnilore’s founder, as the presidential candidate and the alternative slate was elected. During Cutler’s tenure,



*Fred Kiefer
President, 1997*

a number of reforms were instigated to secure elements for the future.

The study and discussion group was installed as the core activity, including the requirement of an individual presentation by each group member.

The Omnilore “Operating Manual” was revised, the quarterly Forum program was established, the **Forum Committee** was made a standing committee, and a third member-at-large was added to the Board of Directors.

During that period CSUDH-Omnilore tension developed over what programming was to be offered. Between the 1992 connection to CSUDH and 2003 inception of OLLI, Omnilore formally had made the study and discussion group format and individual presentation requirement its core activity. On the other hand, CSUDH offered an online learning component, along with lectures. During Burt Cutler’s terms as president in 1998 and 1999, he protected the study and discussion group as the vital component of Omnilore, along with the other reforms. CSUDH had proposed lecture series by University faculty as the central component for Omnilore but that idea was rejected by Cutler and his Board. Eventually, a compromise was reached when the CSUDH lecture series was accepted as one Omnilore class and the study and discussion groups with individual presentations were retained as the core of Omnilore programming.

Those changes helped to make Omnilore attractive to the Osher Foundation when it considered funding its Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) programming at CSUDH in 2003. The Osher Foundation studied CSUDH online and lecture offerings, but it required an interactive learning component for OLLI at CSUDH. At that point Omnilore’s peer-learning study and discussion groups were integrated into the Osher grant application. Osher considered the groups ideal because they required member interaction and active participation as part of the learning process. In addition, Omnilore members independently supported programming by paying an extra fee to pay for equipment, supplies and a part-time administrative support person. The Osher Foundation long-term goal was to have OLLI gain support independent of the

a number of reforms were instigated to secure elements for the future.

The study and discussion group was installed as the core activity, including the requirement of an individual presentation by each group member.

The Omnilore “Operating Manual” was revised, the quarterly Forum program was established, the **Forum Committee** was made a standing committee, and a third member-at-large was added to the Board of Directors.



*Burt Cutler, Founder
President 1998-1999*

During that period CSUDH-Omnilore tension developed over what programming was to be offered. Between the 1992 connection to CSUDH and 2003 inception of OLLI, Omnilore formally had made the study and discussion group format and individual presentation requirement its core activity. On the other hand, CSUDH offered an online learning component, along with lectures. During Burt Cutler’s terms as president in 1998 and 1999, he protected the study and discussion group as the vital component of Omnilore, along with the other reforms. CSUDH had proposed lecture series by University faculty as the central component for Omnilore but that idea was rejected by Cutler and his Board. Eventually, a compromise was reached when the CSUDH lecture series was accepted as one Omnilore class and the study and discussion groups with individual presentations were retained as the core of Omnilore programming.

Those changes helped to make Omnilore attractive to the Osher Foundation when it considered funding its Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) programming at CSUDH in 2003. The Osher Foundation studied CSUDH online and lecture offerings, but it required an interactive learning component for OLLI at CSUDH. At that point Omnilore’s peer-learning study and discussion groups were integrated into the Osher grant application. Osher considered the groups ideal because they required member interaction and active participation as part of the learning process. In addition, Omnilore members independently supported programming by paying an extra fee to pay for equipment, supplies and a part-time administrative support person. The Osher Foundation long-term goal was to have OLLI gain support independent of the



Bernard Osher

Continued on the next page.

Omnilore: The CSUDH OLLI Years 2003-2015

(Continued from page 5)



Ethel Allen
First President
1992-1993

grant. The extra fee paid by Omnilore members was an indication of desired self-sustainability.

Affiliation with the University in 1992, led by **Ethel Allen**, Omnilore's first president, and then the OLLI grant in 2003 engendered expectations and also generated tensions both within Omnilore and with the University. As an independent community organization, members had established practices which reflected only the members' needs and preferences. Full participation and democratic

practices were the norm. On the other hand, affiliation with the University brought the need to interface with University regulations, processes and procedures and inserted a new agent, the University, into Omnilore's finances, planning and activities development. The University pushed to have Omnilore become a program within the University, while many in Omnilore preferred to retain autonomy. Eventually, the Omnilore-University relationship evolved so that Omnilore retained its internal autonomy while linked to the University. That autonomy is reflected in its continued Board of Directors governance and administration, marketing efforts through the **Communications Committee**, curriculum development by the **Curriculum Committee**, programs management, independent registration and enrollment processes, financial support from memberships and short- and long-term planning.

The innovative spirit embedded in Omnilore from its first days continued on through the years as Omnilore grew and changed.



Bill Gargaro, President
2011-2012

Ethel Allen purchased a Mac computer for use in generating letters and other office work. Mike Scordan, first curriculum chair, established a curriculum development and enrollment process to which John Taber then applied his computer expertise. Over a ten-year span John worked on the computerized process. Today **Hal** and **Ruth Hart**, president in 2009 and 2010, work with it. Information technology took a large step forward when **Bill Gargaro**,



Rick Spillane
President, 2007-2008

president in 2011 and 2012, pushed for increased use of information technology in classroom and administrative activities. We now have laptops, WiFi support and other technology available in our classrooms due to the work done by the **Computer Working Group** and such technology support leaders as **Rick Spillane**, president in 2007 and 2008, **Mary Golob**, **Hal Hart**, **Dennis Goodno**, **Sharon Bohner**, **Carol Johnson** and **Howard Korman**, president in 2013 and 2014. The **Website Working Group** created our website, which now provides us access to a wide range of information and a central communication center. Our excellent "**Computer Talks**," which help introduce new skills and reinforce computer use information, were organized and offered by the **Computer Working Group**. Skills gained in the talks help members with Omnilore activities and their own personal computer/laptop use.

As our administrative structure improved and technology use took hold, programming innovation also took hold. Apart from the Forum speakers program and CSUDH faculty lectures, which augmented our study and discussion group content, Omnilore members introduced activities to enrich and broaden offerings. John Taber began the first Special Interest Group, the **Hiking Group**, along with **Peggy Houghton**, **Lorraine Nagy** and **Sunny Golombek**. Today, that group is led by **Steve Miller** and **Dennis Eggert** and we have the "**Bestsellers**" group, led by **Patricia Edie**, president in 2005, and **Cindy Eggert**. And members still have the option of proposing new special interest groups.



Howard Korman
President, 2012-2013



Patricia Edie
President, 2005

Travel was incorporated into study and discussion group (S/DG) programming through the collaboration of **John** and **Lynn Taber**, **Blanche Her-ring**, president in 2002, and **George Clark**, president in 2003 and 2004. Members of the study and discussion groups with travel components conducted their presentations in a multitude of locales in Los Angeles, on the Lewis and Clark Trail, in the southern Atlantic coast states, western Canada, France, Shakespeare festivals in Utah and Oregon, the Washington D.C. area, the Hudson River Valley of New York and Virginia. Concern regarding liability risk eventually resulted in exclusion of further travel activities. But Omniloreans who travel still bring knowledge and experience gained into S/DG discussions.

Continued on the next page.

Omnilore: The CSUDH OLLI Years 2003-2015 (Continued from page 6)

The risk management concern which ended travel-linked study and discussion groups was a small indication of structural tension which has endured through Omnilore's history and is part of Omnilore's dynamic nature. Omnilore's founders operated within an informal structure in 1990, operating completely on their own, struggling to develop membership and momentum. A dynamic tension was generated by the need to recruit enough members to provide diversity in group topics and inclusion of new members. A core of members kept the activity functioning as potential members joined, others left and the group remained small. In 1992 Omnilore leaders worked on affiliation with California State University, Dominguez Hills in an effort to



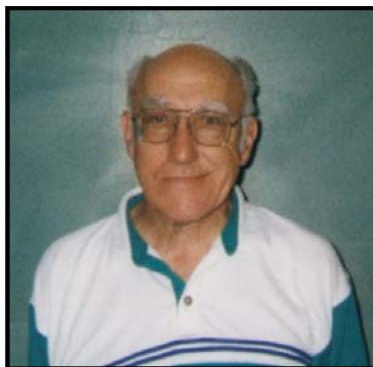
*George Clark
President, 2003-2004*

establish functional stability and promote growth of membership and programming. When that was accomplished, membership grew, a stable meeting place was secured at the Knob Hill Center in Redondo Beach and the number of study and discussion groups greatly expanded.

Increased size generated the need for changes and innovation, while the relationship with the University included the need to adhere to new regulations, processes and procedures. The University wanted to incorporate Omnilore into its own program offerings, a goal perceived as a potential loss of Omnilore's operational autonomy. Low level conflict resulted and was resolved by Omnilore offering University-sponsored activities while retaining its signature study and discussion groups, along with its special interest groups. Omnilore also retained a high level of autonomy through its Bylaws, operating rules and procedures, while adhering to University administrative requirements. Today there is still some of the push-pull tension between University needs and practices and Omnilore's own aspirations and needs. And the collaboration continues to generate positive outcomes within the Omnilore-University relationship.



*Whit Wilson
Third President
1995-1996*



*Emil Raulin
President, 2000-2001*

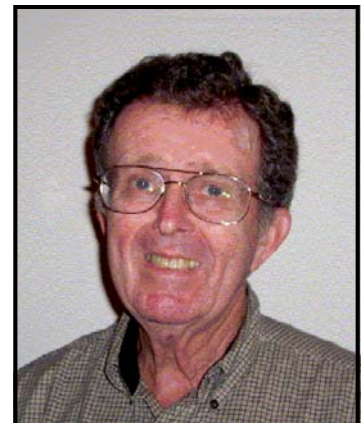


*Blanche Herring
President, 2002*

For the immediate future, and in consideration of the long-term goals, the **Board of Directors** has instituted a revision of Bylaws, operating rules and procedures with some proposed innovations, such as Burt Cutler and the Board of Directors during his two terms worked to improve organizational stability and success. Consideration of an alternative activity site has resulted in a renewed search throughout the South Bay.

Other action being considered, planned or under way is intended to improve study and discussion group participation, individual presentation skills, coordinator training, technology used in classrooms, consideration of new activities, recruitment of future leaders and many other aspects of Omnilore functions.

Ultimately, every member of Omnilore is a volunteer and potential leader. We look forward to another long span of years for Omnilore and a consistently enriching, dynamic experience for our members.



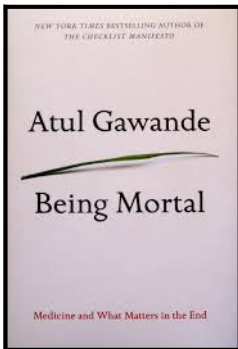
*Dick Johnson
President, 2005*

“The measure of intelligence is the ability to change.” Albert Einstein

by Patricia Edie & Cindy Eggert

Our Best Sellers Book Group SIG participants should be the most intelligent people in the South Bay because we are getting ready for another CHANGE!

The Book Group will continue to meet on the first Thursday of the months of July and August. But...GET READY FOR IT...for the Fall Trimester we will be returning to the SECOND MONDAY of the month for the months of October, November and December. The schedule below reflects the correct dates for the remainder of the year. All meetings start at 12 noon and meet in Conference Room B.

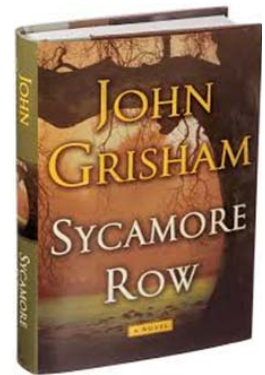


Thursday, July 2: Non-Fiction *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End* by Atul Gawande

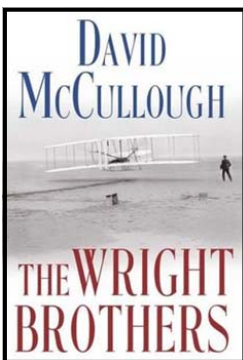
In his best-selling books, Atul Gawande, a practicing surgeon, has fearlessly revealed the struggles of his profession. Now he examines its ultimate limitations and failures – in his own practices as well as others’ – as life draws to a close. Full of eye-opening research and riveting storytelling, *Being Mortal* asserts that medicine can comfort and enhance our experience even to the end, providing not only a good life but also a good end.

Thursday, August 6: Fiction *Sycamore Row* by John Grisham

This month we turn to a recent best seller by John Grisham. Grisham’s *A Time to Kill* is one of the most popular novels of our time. Now we return to that famous courthouse in Clanton as Jake Brigance once again finds himself embroiled in a fiercely controversial trial—a trial that will expose old racial tensions and force Ford County to confront its tortured history. An ambitious, immensely readable legal thriller about a bitterly contested will, *Sycamore Row* is about other things as well. It’s often funny and sometimes tragic and its ending reflects the writer’s absolute understanding of Mississippi’s unspeakable history of racial violence.



SEPTEMBER: NO BOOK GROUP MEETING THIS MONTH ... See you in October.

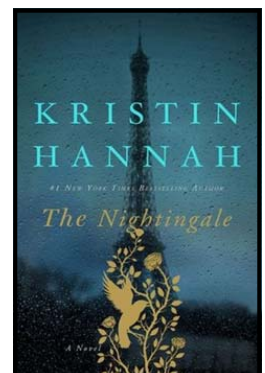


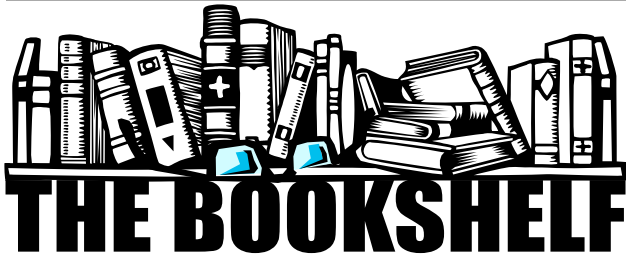
Monday, October 12: Non-Fiction – *The Wright Brothers* by David McCullough

This month we focus on the profoundly American story of Wilbur and Orville Wright. “The Wright Brothers” delivers a tidy and relatively short history of the lives of Orville (1871-1948) and Wilbur (1867-1912), brothers who “lived in the same house, worked together six days a week, ate their meals together, kept their money in a joint bank account, [and] even ‘thought together,’” as Wilbur once claimed. McCullough’s magical account of their early adventures — enhanced by volumes of family correspondence, written records, and his own deep understanding of the country and the era — shows as never before how two Ohio boys from a remarkable family taught the world to fly.

Monday, November 9: Fiction *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah

The words “*In love we find out who we want to be; In war we find out who we are*” begin this month’s selection. This is the often-unspoken story of women’s war - mothers, daughter, sisters, wives. This is the story of their strength, endurance, sacrifice, and courage during the darkest part of their lives. So many of them didn’t just wait for their men to return but took many grave risks to save as many other lives as they could. Set against the backdrop of World War II and the French Resistance, it tells the story of two sisters separated by years and experience, by ideals, passion and circumstance, each embarking on her own dangerous path toward survival, love, and freedom in German-occupied, war-torn France--a novel that celebrates the resilience of the human spirit and the durability of women.





The Glass Castle, by **Jeannette Walls**. This is the story of a modern-day dysfunctional family and its effect on the children. It's gritty, humorous in a wry way, and an object lesson about surviving and thriving in today's economy.

My favorite part is when the author, who has lived through and managed to make her exit from this environment, is told by a college professor that she has no idea how the poor in America suffer. This from an academic who never had to subsist on old bread and mayo!

It takes nothing away from the kids who managed to get out of a dysfunctional situation to say that, had the parents not been the town drunks in towns where drinking was the main social life, they would probably have been able to give their kids at least three hot meals and a cot. I say probably, because we'll never know. They never really wanted to. And still at least a couple of the kids made it out.

Where the story ends is not, of course, an ending, since most of the people involved are still alive and kicking. But it is interesting to see the choices - and they are choices, not inevitabilities - made by

both parents and children at the point where we leave them.

Patriot Threat by **Steve Berry** is a page-turner based on questions, assumptions and doubts concerning our 16th Amend-

ment which authorizes the Government to levy the income tax. Intriguing what-ifs surge and flow around whether the amendment was properly ratified in certain key states, and what would happen if such were brought to light. If that were not bad enough, North Korea and China race against each other (under pretense of working together and against the U.S.) to gather what evidence will prove to the world its illegality and thus bring down our country. A sub-story weaves throughout concerning the attempted return to power of a member of a North Korean ruling family cruelly banished some years ago. A convincing research of history combined with presidential agents, foreign agents, Americans convicted of tax evasion, and a few others combine to form a fast-paced, international thriller that keeps you on the edge of your seat, while privately agonizing if it were true!

Cuckoo's Calling, by **Robert Galbraith** is a really good mystery with fascinating characters. The style was almost like an English Michael Connelly. Down-and-out private detective takes on what police consider a suicide but the detective be-

lieves it to be a murder...And the topper to this good mystery is at the end I discover that Robert Galbraith, the author, is a pseudonym for J.K. Rowling!

Hornet Flight by **Ken Follett** is a nail-biting story that takes place in Nazi-occupied Denmark. It's a study of the different reactions of the Danes to being suddenly subservient without a fight to a master few respect: acceptance, fear, resentment, and pretending both that nothing has changed and that things will get better. Two sets of young people from families already at war amongst themselves, work through issues of the current war and the right thing to do for their country. A happenstance discovery of the enemy's secret, an engaged couple's separation to two countries, a moth-balled Hornet Moth merge with Britain's need for an edge in a war going against it. All combine to keep the reader enthralled by the seriousness of that time and the nerve-wracking existence when decisions are made to aid the good guys—and will they be in time to save lives?

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

OMNIOLORE Summer Forum Luncheon Reservation Form

WHEN: **Thursday, July 30th, 2015—11 a.m.**

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

NO Reservations
accepted after July 20th!

Please make _____ reservations for the **Omniole** Summer Forum Luncheon at **\$22.00** each:

Name(s): _____
(Please Print)

_____ (Please Print)

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Enclosed is a check for: \$22.00 each

Vegetarian plate: # _____ Regular plate: # _____

Total number of meals:

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

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

OMNIOLORE CALENDAR 2015

- July**
- 2 Best Sellers Book Group—12 noon-1 p.m., Conf. Rm. B
 - 4 **Independence Day**
 - 9 Board of Directors Meeting—12 Noon-2 p.m., Conf. Rm. B
 - 23 Introducing Omnilore Meeting—1:30 p.m., Conf. Rm. B
 - 30 **Summer Forum—11:00** a.m., Los Verdes Country Club
(see article, page 1; reservation form, page 9)
 - 31 Coordinators' Training—1:15-2:30 p.m., Room 6
- August**
- 6 Best Sellers Book Group—12 noon-1 p.m., Conf. Rm. B
 - 13 Board of Directors Meeting—12 Noon-2 p.m., Conf. Rm. B
 - 15 Input Deadline for September-October 2015 Newsletter
 - 21 Walking Group—10 a.m.-12 Noon
- September**
- 15 Presentations 101—12:15-1:30 p.m., Conf. Rm. B



2015 Forums

Winter—January 29th
 Spring—April 29th
 Summer—July 30th
 Annual Mtg.—October 29th

IMPORTANT:

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

In Memoriam

Robert "Kit" Bell



An active and popular Omnilorean, "Kit" died June 4 from cardiac arrest. At the suggestion of his wife, Nancy, already an Omnilorean, he joined Omnilore in 2006 and has served on the Membership Committee and as Vice-President for Academics.

Born in New Jersey and raised in Georgia, Kit graduated from Clemson University in 1964 as a distinguished graduate of its ROTC program. With the rank of Colonel, he retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1990 after a decorated career that included tours in Thailand during the Vietnam War and in Germany as commander of the AF Contract Management Center.