



OMNIOLORE NEWS

Volume 13 Issue 3

May 2004

OMNIOLORE NEWS

A publication of OMNIOLORE, a Learning in Retirement Organization affiliated with The Division of Extended Education of California State University Dominguez Hills

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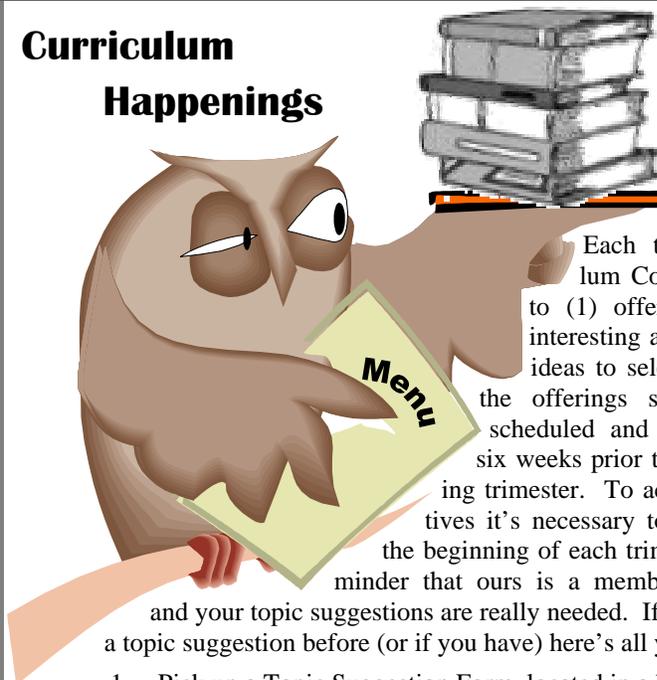
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Edith Garvey	New Member Liaison
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Omniole News is published six times annually. We welcome short feature articles and news stories. Please contact the editor with your contributions.

Editor	Ronnie Saunders
Contributing Editor	Tom Rische
Staff Members	Diana Cutler Carol Kerster

Curriculum Happenings



By
**Burt
Cutler**

Each trimester the Curriculum Committee's objective is to (1) offer the membership an interesting and diverse set of topic ideas to select from, and (2) time the offerings such that classes are scheduled and coordinators in place six weeks prior to the start of the coming trimester. To accomplish those objectives it's necessary to begin the process at the beginning of each trimester. So this is a reminder that ours is a member-driven organization and your topic suggestions are really needed. If you haven't submitted a topic suggestion before (or if you have) here's all you have to do:

1. Pick up a Topic Suggestion Form, located in a box next to the sink in Rooms 7 and 8.
2. Choose a title.
3. Write a paragraph describing the course, the objectives, and what the class members should/can learn.
4. Note any suggested common reading (optional).
5. Sign it.
6. Place your completed form in the Curriculum Committee box in the Room 7 cabinet (or email all the information to johansmith@comcast.net).

Your ideas are solicited - nay, begged for - and must be received by May 14th. If you think you could use some help in rounding out the "selling" your topic idea, volunteer *Omniole* Nobel-prize writers are listed on the Topic Suggestion Forms boxes . . . and . . . **thanks for participating!**

Nancy Shannon-Sinclair to Handle Health Greetings

If you know of an *Omniole* who is sick, has had surgery, or who has passed away, please contact Nancy Shannon-Sinclair 513-0287 who will send greetings or condolences from *Omniole*.

Omniole to Offer Mentors

By Gordon Kehmeier

Some *Omniole*s enjoy giving a presentation in class, some worry about a presentation. The Membership Committee has adopted a program to get the two together. On page 2 is a list of helpers who will consult with those who have

DON'T MISS - IN THIS ISSUE

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trouble and give to them personal instruction and help in computer research, library research, or in preparing and making the presentation. (Continued on page 2)



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

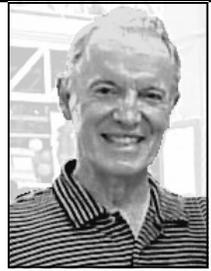
By George Clark

My high school elected me to their Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame. Ironic, since my K-12 career was anything but distinguished. To give you the flavor of my ordeal, after I learned there were twelve grades, I calculated every year the

number of years remaining until I would be free. In a second irony, I now go to school for fun!

When I was a boy, the world outside beckoned, and sitting in a stuffy room for hours was torture. Also, we learned by rote and in lock step. Things are better now. My granddaughter does experiments in second grade. In one

experiment, she painted a stripe on a piece of tissue with a purple marker and put the end of the tissue in water. What will happen? The water creeps up the paper. Why? What will happen when the water reaches the purple stripe? The blue and red colors separate! Chromatography!



AIDA

Los Angeles Opera Tickets Available At Discount

CARMEN



Michèle Crider
as AIDA



Irina Mishura
as AMNERIS



Franco Farina
as MANRICO



Lado Ataneli
as CAMONASRO



Arutjun Kotchinian
as RAMPHIS

Omniorian Roberta Moore has offered to organize group tickets to the 2004-2005 season of the Los Angeles Opera at 20% below the regular price!

If she can get 15 persons to sign up for each group, she will obtain tickets to the Wednesday, November 3rd, 2 p.m. matinee of *Carmen* for \$88 for front loge (regular price \$110); \$72 for rear loge (regular price \$90); and \$56 for front balcony (regular price \$70).

Similar prices for the Sunday, February 13th, 2005 matinee performance of *Aida* are available.

The group does not have to be seated in only one section.

Persons interested in attending are asked to send a check or money order payable to **Los Angeles Opera** to Roberta Moore, P. O. Box 838, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254.

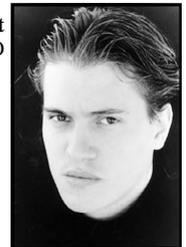
Deadline on *Carmen* reservations is May 15th and *Aida* reservations, June 1st, 2004.

Milena Kitic
as CARMEN



Carmen Giannattasio
as MICAELA

Erwin Schrott
as ESCAMILLO



Richard Leech
as DON JOSE

(Mentors, continued from page 1)

Computer Assistance

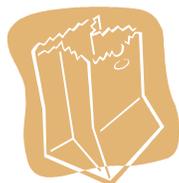
- MS Word - Carol Johnson - 372-8535
- MS Excel - Bob Grove - 833-3039
- MS Excel Class Schedules
- Gordon Kehmeier - 833-6213
- MS PowerPoint - George Clark 546-2343
- Using Search Engines
- Jay Edie - 822-8549

Library Research

- Gordon Kehmeier - 833-6213
- H. E. Kamiya - 530-8544

Presentations

- Jim O'Neill - 539-0415
- Blanche Herring - (323) 660-2648
- Ralph Brown - 541-7077
- Merle Culbert - 545-7994



Brown Bag Science

By George Clark

Thursday, May 6th - Noon to 1:00 P.M. - Franklin Center, Room 7

John Travis



You want to know about satellites, how to put them into orbit, and what they do in space? How synchronous orbits work? What the best places are for launching satellites? How global positioning systems work? Come to the Brown-Bag Science noontime meeting on May 6th. **John Travis** will speak on the topic *Faster Than A Speeding Bullet*. He promises there will be no mathematics.

John knows his subject. He was involved with space-related activities at Aerospace Corporation for many years, keeping track of what the Soviets were up to. He retired in 1993 and now likes to travel and garden.

OMNIOLORE PROFILE – LORRAINE GEITTMANN

By Tom Rische, Contributing Editor

Lorraine Geittmann, four-year *Omniole* member, reports, “My family made their livings off crime - the legal way.”

She is a retired probation officer and a former journalist with experience in crime reporting. Her father was a “federal revenuer, first during Prohibition, and later with the Internal Revenue Service.” Other family members included a district attorney, state trooper, fraud investigator, and security agent. A nephew, recently returned from Iraq military service, keeps computer track of hazardous material sites.

Born in Wisconsin, she grew up in a small southern Illinois river town, Metropolis. “It wasn’t named for Superman, but the town had a statue of him in the square,” she recalls. With two brothers, her family lived in a three-acre plot with lots of goats, rabbits, chickens, cats, dogs and a pet crow named Jim. In high school, she belonged to both the 4-H and Girl Scouts.

Politics was a major dinner topic at the Geittmann home. Lori preferred getting her shingled hair cut at the barber shop, “where they talked politics, instead of the silly movie star chatter in beauty parlors.”

She enjoyed writing in grade school and edited a neighborhood newspaper “with carbon paper copies.” She graduated from the University of Illinois in 1955 with a journalism major. Then she and her college roommate headed for

California. Ending up in the South Bay, she’s lived in Redondo Beach since 1965.

“We decided we’d go either to California or New York, so we put up a notice seeking a ride to both places on our college bulletin board. We decided we’d take whichever one came first. We ended up in Los Angeles.”

After working in an insurance firm publications department, she spent ten years as a *Daily Breeze* reporter. That included a year in Washington, D.C., as a congressional fellow of the American Political Science Association, interning both for a congressman and senator. She attended the 1961 inauguration of John F. Kennedy.

Lori did graduate work in political science at California State, Long Beach. Seeking county employment, she spied a Probation Department flyer, applied, and spent the next 25 years as a probation officer. “It can be very caring work if you are willing to do it.”

She is passionate about problems of her former clients. She is heartened to hear that the State Department of Corrections may return to an earlier rehabilitation mode.

“There were problems with earlier rehab programs, but instead of fixing them, they threw them out. They cut the number of parole and probation officers and did little about job training or parent education. The number of people in prisons swelled,” she said.

“Schools are overburdened. Parents

ought to be taught how to be parents. Serial killers and sociopaths come from abusive families. This all shouldn’t be a political issue.”

A long-time activist, she has been president of her local Democratic Club and member of party county and state committees. At present, she is vice president of the Democratic Senior Caucus. She ran for Redondo Beach City Council, but “found I wasn’t a good candidate.” She’s currently chairman of the city’s library commission.

Lori had a four-way heart bypass 16 months ago and now volunteers at Torrance Memorial Hospital, often working with the Heart to Heart program, visiting other coronary patients.

“I enjoy telling others that there is life after a heart operation. We tell ‘war stories.’ An appliance repairman who recently came to my home thanked me for giving hope to his father, whom I’d met at the hospital.”

She’s also active in the Pacific Unitarian Church, a member of the social justice committee. A long-time union member, she is on the board of retirees of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees.

Her *Omniole* activities include coordinating the California Problems seminar last quarter, and this summer, co-coordinating the Wealth of Man section. Her political connections allowed her to invite Assemblyman George Nakano to the class’s final session for a round-table discussion.

What A Difference A Century Makes! Look At These Statistics From 1902!

- The average life expectancy in the US was forty-seven.
- The American flag had 45 stars. Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Hawaii & Alaska hadn’t been admitted to the Union yet.
- The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- One in ten US adults couldn’t read or write. Only 6% of all Americans had graduated from high school.
- Crossword puzzles, canned beer & iced tea hadn’t been invented.
- There were only 8,000 cars in the US and only 144 miles of paved roads.
- Sugar cost 4¢/pound. Eggs were 14¢/dozen. Coffee cost 15¢/pound.
- The five leading causes of death in the US were: 1. Pneumonia and influenza, 2. Tuberculosis, 3. Diarrhea, 4. Heart disease, 5. Stroke.
- A three-minute call from Denver to New York City cost \$11.
- Only 14% of the homes in the US had a bathtub.
- Only 8% of the homes in the US had a telephone.
- There were only about 230 reported murders in the entire US.
- Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa and Tennessee were each more heavily populated than California. With a mere 1.4 million residents, California was only the 21st most populous state in the Union.
- Canada passed a law prohibiting poor people from entering the country for any reason.
- More than 95% of all births in the US took place at
- The average US worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.
- The population of Las Vegas was 30.

May

- 5 REN - Modern Renaissance Class - 10-12 Noon - CSUDH
- 6 Brown-Bag Science (BBS) Series - 12-1:00 p.m. - Room 7
Putting Satellites into Orbit - John Travis
- 9 Mother's Day**
- 11 Membership Committee Meeting - 12 Noon - Room 7
- 13 Board of Directors Meeting - 12 Noon to 2 p.m. - Room 7
- 14 Computers & Technology SIG - 1:30-3:30 p.m. - Room 7
- 21 Hiking Group - 10 a.m.
- 28 Curriculum Committee Meeting - 10 a.m.-1 p.m. - Room 7
- 28 Computers & Technology SIG - 1:30-3:30 p.m. - Room 7
- 31 Memorial Day**
- 29 Forum Committee Meeting - 11:30-1 p.m. - Room 7



June

- 3 Brown-Bag Science (BBS) Series - 12-1:00 p.m. - Room 7
(tentatively) *Time* - Roland Dishington
- 7 Forum Committee Meeting - 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. - Room 7
- 8 Membership Committee Meeting - 12 Noon - Room 7
- 10 Board of Directors Meeting - 12-2 p.m. - Room 7
- 11 Computers & Technology SIG - 1:30-3:30 p.m. - Room 7
- 14 Flag Day**
- 15 Input Deadline for July-August Newsletter
- 18 Hiking Group - 10 a.m.
- 20 Father's Day**
- 25 Computers & Technology SIG - 1:30-3:30 p.m. - Room 7

OMNIOLORE
CALENDAR

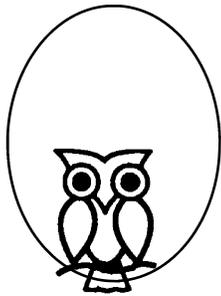
2004

It's Spring!



IMPORTANT

Calendar changes and additions are scheduled with Carol Johnson,
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