

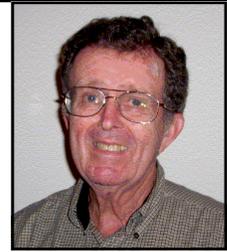


**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**  
by Richard Johnson

I'm pleased to announce that **Diana Cutler** has agreed to help **JoAnna Kerrigan** in the very important job of Newsletter Editor until **Connie Greaser** can take it over next year. Consequently, this is the last edition of the newsletter under the leadership of **Mary Oran**, who took on the job along with her many other duties as Communications Chairperson when **Ronnie Saunders** had to retire. We in *Omnilore* express our

gratitude to all the above. I'd also like to offer a tribute to our Study/Discussion Group (S/DG) Coordinators. There is no better way of helping *Omnilore* be successful than to volunteer for these jobs, yet at times they are one of the hardest jobs to fill. If you are asked to be a coordinator, please say YES! It's also an extra contribution to attend the coordinator training session even if you have been a

coordinator before; the inputs and variety of ideas that come from "old timers" are just as important as learning new ideas for yourself.



I attended our last coordinator training session so ably given by **Merle Culbert** and **Laura Guneau**. I came away convinced more than ever that a good coordinator can contribute immeasurably to everyone in the S/DG.

**Communications Committee**  
by Mary Oran, Communications Chair

Previous newsletter issues have introduced readers to the Curriculum and Membership Committees and their duties. This issue describes the functions of the Communications Committee. Once upon a time, **Ronnie Saun-**

**ders**, our "Editor Emeritus," performed all of the communication tasks, but as our organization has grown, we have spread out the assignments.

The newsletter, of course, is our major form of membership communication. Published bimonthly, it keeps the general membership informed about events, dates, people and much more.

Press releases regarding membership orientation meetings and forum activities are also the committee's responsibility. The website ([www.omnilore.org](http://www.omnilore.org)), maintained by the Webmaster and the Website Working Group, are the newest responsibility of the Communications Committee. Even the large bulletin boards in rooms 7 and 8 come under our jurisdiction and thankfully, we have recently found some people willing to work on them.

Finally, it is important that we assist the other committees with their communication needs, and we have now set up a system of liaisons to each group.

We have several members who willingly give their time and expertise to ensure communications run smoothly. **Mary Golob** is in charge of press releases and is also serving as liaison to the Membership Committee. **Diana Cutler** is proofreader extraordinaire, Forum Committee liaison, and has now taken on the co-editorship of the newsletter temporarily. **Hal Hart** is working on special computer projects and is Curriculum Committee liaison. **Myron Pullen** is our Webmaster, and **Patricia Edie** chairs the Website Working group. **Walt and Pam Skiba** have just taken on the task of keeping our bulletin boards current. A big "thank you" to all of these volunteers!

We can always use more help. The newsletter, especially, welcomes writers. Would you like to do interviews and write *Profiles*? How about offering an *Illuminations* article on your favorite topic? Submitting a little poem or limerick, or sending in some favorite quotations are also helpful contributions. Let our new co-editors **JoAnna Kerrigan** and **Diana Cutler** know what you have to offer!

Also, how about sharing your artistic talents for the newsletter or web page? Or your digital photos? **George Clark** is going to be in charge of a photo page on our website; he will enjoy receiving your photo submissions.

We know that our 270+ members have incredible talents. Sharing them is a form of communication that everyone can enjoy.

**The Sounding Board Echo Echo Echo**

by the  
Website Working Group



Who were the first illegal aliens in America? What did Richard Feynman say about the way electrons move? Check the Sounding Board on the *Omnilore* website ([www.omnilore.org](http://www.omnilore.org)) to find out! You will find the answers in the Members Only section. If you are not registered for the Sounding Board, it is a simple process. There are directions online; if you prefer, you can contact the Webmaster or a member of the website working group (**George Clark, Jay Edie, Patricia Edie, Blanche Herring, Mary Oran, Myron Pullen**). They will be happy to help you.

Membership Committee News

The April "Introducing Omnilore" meetings have resulted in nine new members joining Omnilore for the summer trimester. Many of them attended as a result of hearing about Omnilore from a friend. This is really one of the best ways for our organization to attract new members. Please keep on telling friends about us. We will be having more "Introducing Omnilore" meetings in August in anticipation of the fall trimester, so if you know someone who might be interested, please let them know. Special thanks to **Myron Pullen, Patricia Edie, and Ralph Brown**, who offered their help to the Membership Committee in putting on these sessions.

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## OMNIOLORE PROFILE – DOROTHY RILEY

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Introducing our *Omniole* Secretary – Dorothy Riley! Dorothy’s parents immigrated from Finland, met in Minnesota, and married in 1914. They both became U.S. citizens. Originally her father worked on the railroad, but his ambition to have a farm resulted in a move to Portland, Oregon. It was there that Dorothy was born, delivered at home by her father. She was the youngest of five children; the others were boys.

The twenty minute to an hour school bus rides remain in Dorothy’s memory. Her school was 1 -12 with a total enrollment of 300; the early grades were combinations of two grade levels. After 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation, she walked up three steps to the high school wing of the same building! In high school, Dorothy was the sophomore class president and was also elected student body treasurer. But her high school experience changed when her family moved to the Tacoma area. Suddenly she was in a school with 300 students in her class. Many of her classmates were from Ft. Lewis and McCord Air Force base; they had lived in many parts of the world and were very easy to get to know. Dorothy says “It was as if a whole new horizon had been shown to me.”

When Dorothy graduated from high school, she decided to become a teacher. She spent one year at Western Washington College of Education in

Bellingham, WA. She met and married her husband Lyman, who was a returning veteran of the Korean War. Her education was put on hold as she was wrapped up in raising a family. Because of the good opportunities in the aerospace industry, the family moved to the southern California area during the Vietnam War era.

Dorothy returned to school and finished her degree at CSUDH with a major in History. After student teaching, with a lifetime credential in hand, Dorothy began her teaching career. She taught in the LAUSD for 25 years; half of those years were in the inner city and half were in San Pedro. She has “always felt fortunate to be part of such caring school communities.”

As their three children moved on with their lives, Dorothy and her husband began to travel. After two trips to Hawaii, they bought a forty foot motor home and began exploring the Northwest. In 1996 they took a long-planned trip to Europe via a home exchange. They traded homes and cars for two months with a couple whose home was in East Anglia, near Frinton-on-Sea (about an hour east of London by train.) In 1997 they ventured on a month long trip to Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Finland. On this trip Dorothy got back in touch with many family members.

Two months after returning from this trip, Dorothy’s husband had a severe

stroke. He spent the remaining seven years of his life in a skilled nursing facility – San Pedro Pavilions. Dorothy spent much of her time (6 or more hours every day) at that facility during those years.

She finally forced herself to get involved in some outside activities. After attending two *Omniole* forum luncheons, she signed up. Initially, she attended only the lecture series, but now she is fully involved in the *Omniole* program.

She is also a member of the Friendship Force. These clubs can be found all over the world and are a wonderful way to meet people and learn about different cultures. The groups stay with families and club members at diverse locations and have “wonderful experiences.” In 2004 Dorothy went with the group to Australia (including Tasmania!); last year she traveled to New Zealand. Just a few weeks ago her group visited the Napa Club. Future “temptations” that she is considering are trips to the Trieste area and an International Convention in Ireland. In late October, 25 club members from the Isle of Wight are visiting Los Angeles, so Dorothy is involved in planning a wonderful, memorable time for them.

For several years Dorothy has been doing her civic duty by working in the precincts on elections days. If there is any spare time in her life, she loves to read, garden, and spend time with her family and friends, old and new.

## Resource Link



The links on the Omnilore website offer many treasures. Once one gets to the “Members Only” area and double clicks on **Links**, a whole new world opens. Here is the treasure of the month – *The Museum of Online Museums (aka MoOM)*. It lists links that will connect you to archives, online collections, and exhibits that cover a vast array of interests and obsessions. It is divided into three sections. The **Museum Campus** presents “brick and mortar” museums. It includes such venerable institutions as the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Museum of the History of Science at Oxford, the Art Institute of Chicago, and the Smithsonian, which displays items not on exhibit in D.C. There is also a link to the Museum of Useful Things. If that doesn’t grab your interest, the second section might. Known as the **Permanent Collection**, it includes respected establishments such as the National Portrait Gallery and the American Museum of Photography. For something different, however, The Museum of Fred or Fading Billboards might be just the ticket. Then again, **Galleries and Exhibitions and Shows** may intrigue a person most of all. From the WWII Pinup Gallery, to Manhole Covers of the World and the Museum of Antique Fishing Lures, this list takes you places you didn’t know existed. And all you have to do is go to [www.omnilore.org](http://www.omnilore.org) and hit a few keys!



# MoOM



**Room 7**  
**12:15 to 1:15 PM**

**Brown Bag Science**  
(Science for the Non-Scientist)

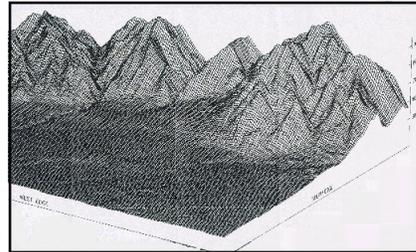
by George Clark

Bring Your Lunch - If You Like!



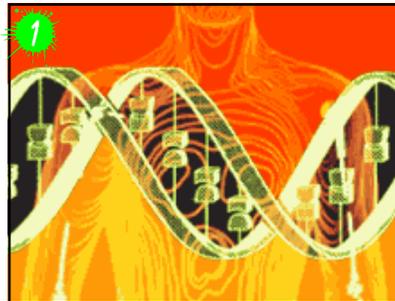
**May 18:**

As we head into the digital age, the toys and tools we use evolve at a dizzying pace. They become obsolete long before they wear out. Where is this headlong rush of new technology taking us? How will our lives change as a result of the digital revolution we see around us? How will business, law, medicine, recreation, family life, and even sexuality, change as we advance into the 21st century? What are the strange and sometimes frightening implications of the digital age? **John Stevens** will share his thoughts about what we may do with future technology and what it may do to us.



This is a digital elevation model of Sugar House Quadrangle, Utah. This three-dimensional drawing was created by USGS from computerized data.

**June 15:** In June, Brown Bag Science will delve into two unrelated subjects: a very new science and a very old one. The new science is the recent exploration of the human genome. **Burt Cutler** will bring us up to date on the genome investigation, pointing out what we have learned so far, and what we have yet to find out.



The very old science is the construction of sundials. The science may be old, but it is very much alive and still advancing. Early sundials used only the movement of the sun across the sky and so were very inaccurate. The shadow on the dial moved in ways that were not understood until the revolution of the earth around the sun and the tilt of the earth's axis were taken into account. The final revelation was the effect of the ellipticity of the earth's orbit. Using all of this information, designers have now created sundials that tell time to an accuracy of thirty seconds and also tell the day of the year. **George Clark** will tell us about modern sundials.



**HAVE I TOLD YOU TOO MUCH ABOUT MYSELF?**

by Blanche Herring

The Wisdom Exchange class of Cal State Fullerton's Learning in Retirement group, CLE, has recently published an anthology of essays. The fascinating art work which accompanies these writings is of particular interest. It is the creation of former **Omnioleean, Bette Henning**. The graphic designs, including the cover, of *Have I Told You Too Much About Myself?* were done by Bette on her computer, using her non-dominant hand. The resulting drawings and her captions, add a unique and often quirky touch to this publication, making it all the more appealing. In the book's preface, Gerontologist, Cheryl M. Svensson, Ph.D. describes Bette's work as "humorous, poignant and (displaying) an insight that goes far deeper than the drawings."

Bette Henning was an active participant in **Omnioleore** for six years. She served on the Board of Directors as a Member at Large, following which she co-chaired the Forum Committee. During her tenure on the committee she made arrangements for Forum speakers and she designed all the table decorations for these luncheons. Bette continues her activities at CLE and is now Chair of Special Events for that organization.

Reading furnishes the mind only with materials of knowledge; it is thinking that makes what we read ours.

John Locke



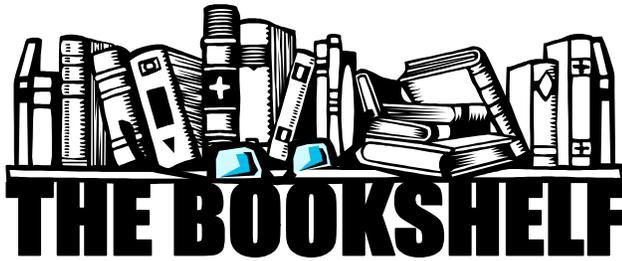
*(If you have a story to tell, an idea to explore, a question to ponder, and would like to write an article for "Illuminations," please contact the newsletter editor. We are interested in all subjects — art, music, science, history, culture, drama, psychology — topics of interest to most, if not all of us. We welcome your input.)*

**A WEE WALK**

By Merle Culbert

We went for a wee walk,  
Annie dog and I. Down the hill,  
through the gate, she bellying  
under it and me stepping over it.  
South on the road, my eyes lowered  
to the tracks and the stories  
written there. Quail tracks, coyote tracks,  
dog tracks, buggy tracks, cow tracks.  
Wait, were those bobcat tracks? And  
these bear tracks?

Go slow. The road stretches ahead.  
Look around. I see only Annie  
loping from bush to bush,  
quartering for quail. No need  
to worry. Our destination - that ancient  
pine tree is in view. Beside the road.  
I sit on the shady bank under the tree.  
Annie curls at my feet. I take out my book  
and read poetry, all the while hoping  
the bear and the bobcat don't see me.



by Mary Oran

This month we are taking a different approach, thanks to one of our *Omnioleans* who submitted some reference books that “every reader needs.” I’m adding a couple of my own to the list, and hope all of our readers will find something to their liking. Never fear – in the next newsletter we will return to some fiction/nonfiction recommendations (we already have some wonderful titles waiting in the wings!).

*The Oxford Dictionary of Allusions* is a slim volume that will explain the extra meaning or characteristic that an author hoped to conjure up in referring to a name or an event. Arranged by theme, it is especially valuable to writers and poets as well as readers.

A lengthier tome is *The Penguin Dictionary of Symbols*. It goes into detail about symbols of literature, religion and national identity, delving deeply into the subconscious mind and dream world.

Find out the symbolic significance of snakes, nightmares, water, and so much more. Neither your dreams nor your reading will be the same with this one by your side!

A classic literary reference is *Brewer’s Dictionary of Phrase and Fable*. While an excellent sourcebook on English usage and expression, it also “...records the chief figures of the world’s mythologies, as well as superstitions and customs of ancient and modern times.”

Of a similar nature is *Benet’s Reader’s Encyclopedia*. It covers all aspects of literature, including short biographies of writers and poets, summaries of books and poems, definitions of literary terms; it is a delightful and concise way to learn literary history.

Along a different line is the *Dictionary of Theories: One Stop to More Than 5,000 Theories*. This reference will appeal to our nonfiction readers, especially in the fields of science, philosophy, psychology, politics, mathematics, the arts, and linguistics. Alphabetically arranged, the name of the theory (or principle) is followed by the subject area and a brief explanation of its meaning and origin.

Learn about the echo principle, situationism, the Cantor Set, and arte mata, all in one sitting. Be forewarned- this book isn’t for the faint of heart!

Finally, for the real bibliophiles out there, *Nancy Pearl’s Book Lust and More Book Lust* offer “reading recommendations for every mood, moment, and reason.” Over 100 lists in each of these books present book titles, along with brief explanations. This former librarian’s eclectic tastes are a delight to explore. Consider these list choices: *Africa: A Reader’s Itinerary, Space Operas, Ciao Italia, Living Through War, At Work: Good Reading from the Government (really!)*. Hundreds of fiction and nonfiction books are there for the taking! Even her introduction, explaining her philosophy of reading, is interesting.

Dig into the above, and let us know what you think.

(A special thanks to Merle Culbert for her recommendations for this column. Please send your titles, with author name and a brief description, to [msoran@sbcglobal.net](mailto:msoran@sbcglobal.net). Put “omnilore books” as the subject. Or, drop your suggestions in the Communication Chair’s mailbox in Room 7. We look forward to hearing from you.)

Travel Group Update

by Emil Raulin

**Shakespeare Trip**

Final arrangements have been made for a total of 16 *Omniole* members who will be traveling to Ashland, Oregon to attend the Shakespeare Festival next month. Many thanks to **Marilyn Landau** for making the arrangements for this trip.

**Canadian Adventure**

We are currently in the process of having all who are interested in the British Columbia and Canadian Rockies trip this September to make a reservation. To assure a place on this trip a \$200 deposit per person needs to be made with Brewster Travel. We have several couples and individuals that have made their deposits and we need additional people to make reservations in order to get the group rate that has been quoted. Anyone interested in this trip or needing additional information may call **Emil Raulin** 316-5750 or **John Taber** 831-4768.

**Coordinators**  
The trimester has just begun. Be sure to notify the Head Coordinator (Laura Guneau), Registrar (Roy Schubert), and Office Manager (Carol Johnson) of any roster changes.

**Computer Talks**  
There will be no Computer Talks during May and June. (If you miss them, go to the Omnilore website Sounding Board and chat!)

**Coming Soon . . .**  
To Rooms 7 and 8: DVD/VCR players, more cables, and for Room 8 specifically, a cart for the TV. More ways to enhance your presentations!!

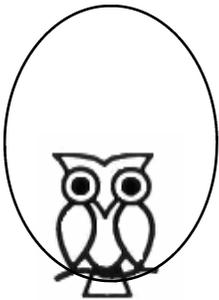
**Suggestion:**  
Before going to Franklin Center for special sessions such as Brown Bag Science, Computer Talks, etc., check our website 24 hours or so beforehand to see if there has been a change of time/day or cancellation.

## OMNIOLORE CALENDAR 2006

- May**
- 8 Stock Market SIG - 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. - Room 8
  - 9 Membership Committee - 12 Noon - Room 8
  - 11 Board of Directors Meeting - 12 Noon to 2 p.m. - Room 7
  - 18 Brown-Bag Science (BBS) Series - 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. - Room 7 -  
*Future Technology and What It May Do to Us* - John Stevens  
(see article, page 4)
  - 19 Hiking Group - 10 a.m.
  - 22 Stock Market SIG - 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. - Room 8
  - 29 **Memorial Day Holiday**
- June**
- 8 Board of Directors Meeting - 12 Noon to 2 p.m. - Room 7
  - 12 Stock Market SIG - 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. - Room 8
  - 13 Membership Committee - 12 Noon - Room 8
  - 14 **Flag Day**
  - 15 Input Deadline for July-August Newsletter
  - 15 Brown-Bag Science (BBS) Series - 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. - Room 7 -  
*Human Genome Investigation* - Burt Cutler  
*Sundials* - George Clark  
(see article, page 4)
  - 16 Hiking Group - 10 a.m.
  - 21 **First Day of Summer!**
  - 26 Stock Market SIG - 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. - Room 8



**IMPORTANT:** Calendar changes and additions are scheduled with  
Pat Stevens - (310) 548-3253 - mh\_pt\_stevens@peoplepc.com



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