

# The Lamplighter

July, August, September 2004

*A quarterly newsletter of the  
Literacy Council of Bonita Springs*

## **Celebrate Literacy In The Arts Day November 13**

All Literacy Council tutors, students, families and friends are invited to join the Art League of Bonita Springs on celebrating Literacy In The Arts Day on Saturday, November 13, from 9 am to 3 pm at the Center for the Arts, 26100 Old 41 Road, next to the U.S. Post office. Guests will be able to create their own works of art at stations in the Center, participate in theater and puppet performances, face painting and caricatures, and enjoy multicultural dancing, music, poetry reading, and creative demonstrations by local artists. For more information, call the Art league at 495-8989.

## **International Fete Planned Nov. 9**

A night of international dining, entertainment and music will be held on November 9, 6:30 to 8:30pm at St. Mary's Episcopal Church Hall on Bonita Beach Road. Tutors and students can present their own skits

## **Lee County to Celebrate International Literacy Day September 8**

The Lee County Library System will sponsor a Celebration of Literacy program on Wednesday, September 8, from 6-8 pm at the South County Regional Library, 21100 South Oaks Parkway, Estero, near Corkscrew Road.

The program will feature displays, testimonials by adult English learners, tutors and literacy supporters. Entertainment will be provided by Dance Salsation, a team of dancers who promote and preserve Hispanic culture in Southwest Florida. Refreshments will also be provided. Local sponsors include Lehigh Acres Literacy Council, Literacy Council of Bonita Springs, Literacy Volunteers of Lee County, and the School District of Lee County's Adult and Community Education, Even Start and Head Start programs.

On Thursday, September 9, a meeting on the GED (General Equivalency Degree) program will be held at the Cape Coral-Lee County Public Library. On the same day, a presentation on the Importance of the FCAT (Florida Comprehensive Academic Test) will be made in Haitian Creole for interested parents and students at the Fort Myers-Lee County Library.

During International Literacy Week, displays at all Lee County branch libraries will provide information on the READY Collection (ESL, ABE, GED etc.) and local literacy providers.

## **New 'Scratch and Help' Program Raises Funds for Council Expansion**

Literacy Council students recently participated in a successful fundraising drive to help build, buy, or lease larger space to conduct English language lessons. Created by Development Director Bob Dimond, the game consisted of a board containing numbers covered with a silver-colored coating, which could be scratched off to reveal the amount of money to be donated, from 50 cents up to \$3. Each participant was required to scratch off two numbers. In return, each participant was given a sheet of 10 coupons redeemable at a local store or restaurant for either a discount or a free item.

A party for all participants will be held on Labor Day, September 6, at the Community Hall on Old 41 from 5 to 9pm. Join in for good music and good food. Pre-purchase tickets for \$5 each at the Council office.

## Congratulations, Students!

The following students completed Level 1 Laubach with their tutor, Joan McDowell.

Veronica Barrera	Veronica Martinez
Maria Dimes	Martha Menjivan
Nora Giron	Josefina Ramirez
Elida Hinejosa	Victoria Torres
Esmeralda Martinez	Teodor Vazquez

The following students from July classes completed Level 1 Laubach with their teacher, Jim McHugh.

Herlinda Alvarez	Candy Lopez	Jorge Alvir
Araceli Dominguez	Yarica Martinez	Angel Burqua
Rene Dominguez	Rosalba Molina	Jose Diaz
Nelby Galeano	Alba Munguia	Joce Espinoza
Diego Grisales	Margarita Paterroyo	Dario Rodriguez
Valentina Grisales	Alejandra Perez	Juan Rodriguez
Luis Hernandez	Guillermo Resendiz	
Adelso Lopez	Olga Velez	

The following students from the June class completed Level 1 Laubach with their teacher, Jim McHugh.

Karina Aguilar	Gilberto Godinez	Paula Ranieri
Carlos Alvarado	Edvin Gonzales	Moises Rea
Edgar Cobox	Marina Mendez	Carlos Rivas
Edgar Garcia	Carlos Molina	Luis Sanchez
		Melina Vilchez

Luz Ibanez, Level 1 Laubach, Barbara Maugans, tutor.  
Jose Medrono, Level 1 Laubach, Mary Johnson, tutor.  
Mario Moreno, Level 1 Laubach, Douglas Hansen, tutor.  
Nora Martinez, Level 2 Laubach, Tom Manuel, tutor.  
Victoria Montero, Level 2 Laubach, Delores Brecher, tutor.

## Students Form Council to Help Immigration Needs

Literacy Council students have organized a Council group to help provide an orientation on immigration needs to fellow students. The information provided by the Council assisted students in preparing for a visit August 21 by the Mexican Consulate to give out matricula consulars and passports. The Consulate visit was held at the Amigos Center of the Bonita Springs Lutheran Church on Old 41 Road.

## Tutor Training Workshops

*Two October Workshops are scheduled!*

October 20 and 22, Wednesday and Friday, 9am to 3pm at the Shadow Wood Country Club in the Brooks. Lorraine O'Connell and Don Miller, trainers.

October 25, 27, 29, MWF, 9am to 1pm at St. Monica's Episcopal Church on Immokalee Road, east of I-75. Roberta Reiss, trainer.

November 6, 13, 20, Saturdays, 9am to 1pm at Bentley Village Community Center. Marilyn Ball and Bert Bonner, trainers.

## Tutor Group Discusses Ways to Improve Tutoring Program

Thirteen Literacy Council staff members, tutor trainers and representatives met July 7 at the Council office to discuss ways to improve the level of tutor training and teaching. Jeanne Sachs, tutor/student coordinator, presented responses from a survey of 35 Council tutors on the primary problems regarding their teaching. The most prominent problem, according to the tutors, was getting students to practice English outside the classroom.

Other problems mentioned included missed classes, length of classes, homework assignments, native student dialects. Suggestions included following the literacy teaching program, encouraging students to watch closed-caption tv programs, old movies and reading sports magazines, and to journal their efforts. Also discussed was the loss of tutors and suggestions to retain them, including team teaching, observing experienced teachers tutoring students, mentoring by experienced teachers, staying in touch with other new tutors, holding quarterly meetings to discuss problems, and encouraging teachers to attend refresher courses.

Attending the meeting were Katie and Carmine Verna, Bob Dimond, Paul Swain, Bert Bonner, Marilyn Ball, Susan Bartos, Sharon Zanko, Don Miller, Linda Rogers, Judy Anderson and Barbara Green. The group will hold its next meeting Thursday, September 9 from 3-4 pm. They will focus on planning quarterly meetings to support and educate present tutors, on team-building tutors to improve communication, and to form a committee of 10-12 tutors to conduct bimonthly telephone surveys of active tutors.

## Bob Dimond Appointed Development Director

Bob Dimond, of Naples, has been named Director of Development for the Literacy Council, reports Director Katie Verna. In his new position, he will be responsible for fundraising programs, primarily a capital fund drive, plus community, government and media public relations. He had been development director for the past two years of South Lake County, Illinois, Family Services, where he planned mail fund raising programs, wrote grant applications, spoke to community organizations and did media relations. "I'm looking forward to getting involved in plans for the needed expansion of Literacy Council programs and facilities, reaching business and civic organizations and interesting local residents in helping to teach English to our many immigrant members of the community," said Bob.

Bob previously worked as a publisher of business magazines. A graduate of George Washington University, he also served as information officer for a USAF tactical fighter wing. He has three children and six grandchildren.

## Welcome Aboard!

We at the Council are pleased to welcome 19 new tutors who were certified at the June Tutor Training Workshop at the Community Room in the Riverview Colonial Bank. The workshop was led by trainers Marilyn Ball and Bert Bonner.

Gar Evers, Ann Hall, Gina Palanzi, Pat Sager, Irene Tomlinson. John Combettes—University graduate. Fluent in French and speaks Russian, Arabic and Japanese. Lives in Naples, where he enjoys music (sax player), photography and collecting.

Bob Corbin – University graduate. A Philadelphia, PA; native, now retired full time in Naples. Active in Outreach Ministry from his church.

Janet Davis – Grew up in CT; graduated from Vassar College with a BA in English; speaks a little French and Spanish.

Marilyn Fenton – University graduate and medical school professor. Moved fulltime to Bonita Springs in 2001, where she plays tennis, reads and plays the piano.

Herbert Gatewood – Retired attorney with new career in stock photography. Lived in S. Hamilton, MA; originally from Indiana.

Mariana Kaegebein – Former Chicago counselor, teacher and nutritionist. Enjoys music, decorating, and Bonita Bay Singers. Sharon Kraft—A former flight attendant, married for 36 years, she enjoys traveling. Likes cooking, reading and movies.

Linda-Gene Peterson – Moved from Cape Cod, MA to Bonita Springs a year ago, maintains active consulting practice. She wants to be of value and purpose to those to whom the skill of learning English is critical to their quality of life here in the US.

Joan Scariati – Former community activist from Long Island NY, has an extensive background in organization and government..

Richard Schlader – University of Minnesota graduate. North-West Airlines pilot for 37 years.

Marie Shuck- Washington, DC, native, worked there for Federal Government as secretary. Can now give back.

Terry Simpson – Toronto native and university graduate. I know a little French and am learning Spanish at the Literacy Council.

Charles Tannehill – Louisiana native. Former life insurance and newspaper publishing executive. Enjoys reading and yard work.

Ruth Walter—Kansas native and university graduate, is execu-

## 16 Tutors Help Student Testing

Sixteen tutors assisted Instructor Jim McHugh July 14 in conducting testing of students who completed the Laubach Level One. Helping during the morning test were Joyce Lamb, Mariane Kaegebein, Kathy Reibold, Sharon Zanko, Susie Bartos, Lula Bosco, Maureen Lorenz, and Yolanda Heredia. Monitoring the evening test were Herman Nelson, Marilyn Fenton, Bob Dimond, Paula Ranieri, Marilyn Qunell, Bill Maybrook, Yolanda Heredia and Bob Tunstall. The tutors congratulate the successful students. Their names are listed under “Congratulations, Students.”

## Tutors, Help Your Students Understand the Election

The November Presidential, Congressional and local elections are fast approaching and Literacy Council students, especially those who are U.S. citizens and eligible to vote, may need to be more informed about the election process and even the candidates and issues. The League of Women Voters website at [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org) offers a free online publication—”Navigating Election Day; What Every Voter Needs to Know”. Available in both Spanish and English, it can be downloaded in sections for review by your interested students. *Gentle reminder, tutors: while educating your students, please focus on the issues, not your own personal views!*

For information about specific candidates and issues, this website also has a service called “DemocracyNet” available directly at [www.dnet.org](http://www.dnet.org). Enter your zipcode to find the names of state and federal office candidates which will be printed on your Election Day ballot. There will also be links to candidate positions on various issues, plus a listing of the legislative bills pending in Congress and other relevant data.

To gain a greater awareness of the election process and to better inform your students, the League of Women’s Voters also publishes a handbook entitled “Choosing The President 2004; A complete guide to understanding the presidential election process.” The LWV website has a printable order form or telephone 1-888-287-7424. Cost is \$11 plus \$3.99 shipping and handling.

This information was provided by “Hands-on English”, a bimonthly periodical for teachers and tutors of adult English as a second language. The latest issue has interesting articles on spelling, a review of the ESL board game “The Game of Love”, and on multi-level dictation, which can be reviewed by tutors at the Council office.

## Have You Read Your Literacy Council Fundraising Letter?

The recent fundraising letter mailed by the Literacy Council includes an interesting summary of the experiences of three students who have studied English in our teaching program. Be sure to read this report for a better awareness of how our tutoring program is succeeding. When you finish, it would be a great time to write a check to the Literacy Council and mail it back.

# In Memoriam

Literacy Council tutor Bob Flato of Estero passed away on August 8. Bob was a tutor for the past two years. Bob's student was Felix Roque. We extend our sincere condolences to his family.

# Library Workshop Sept. 23 to Train Literacy Tutors of Hospitality Workers

Southwest Florida hotels and motels employ many housekeepers who cannot speak basic English very well, especially tourist attraction language, gift shop words, beach verbs, bathroom vocabulary and checkout times. Tutoring programs for these workers have been used in the Florida Keys for many years and have improved both their personal morale, English language skills and guest service.

A free workshop to train tutors of these non-English speaking hospitality workers will be held Thursday, September 23, from 9:30 am to 1 pm at the Lee County South Regional Library, 21100 Three Oaks Parkway, Estero, near Corkscrew Road. Interested tutors are invited to contact Sandy Newell at 850-245-6624 or [snewell@dos.state.fl.us](mailto:snewell@dos.state.fl.us). or Barb Coons at (239) 461-5885, FAX (239) 334-7940 or [m.coons@leegov.com](mailto:m.coons@leegov.com). The deadline for enrolling is September 17.

The program was developed by Lois Meyers through the Literacy Volunteers of Monroe County, a partner of the Monroe County Public Library. The Lee County program is sponsored by the State Library and Archives of Florida in partnership with the Literacy Volunteers of Monroe County, and the Collier and Lee County Library Systems. It is also federally funded, in part, by a Library Services and Technology Act Grant administered by the Florida Department of State, Division of Library and Information Services.

# Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

The Literacy Council wants to express its deep appreciation to the following persons who recently helped to fold, stuff and seal 1,000 copies of the annual fund-raising letter: Marly Guevara, Ingrid Vicente, Nancy Arias, Fernanda Ruiz, Alejandro Morales, Daysi Fernandez, Alejandra Vega, Mainor Zelaya, Marina Mendez, Pat Geisser, Daniel Toren and Samuel Morales.

# Memorial Donations

Claire Kastner, of Estero, has generously donated \$50 to the Literacy Council in memory of George Howard.

Susan Kadlec, of Lancaster, MA, has donated \$50 to the Literacy Council as a memorial to Donna Jean Keepers.

# Sam's Club Donation

The Sam's Club Foundation has made a generous grant of \$1,000 to the Literacy Council of Bonita Springs.

# OFFICE SCHEDULE

Katie Verna, Program Director  
Sonia Heredia, Office Assistant  
Monday through Friday  
9:00 to 12:00 noon  
Jeanne Sachs, Student/Tutor Coordinator  
Nora Martinez, Lab Coordinator  
Monday to Thurs., 4:00 to 9:00 pm

# STUDENT LAB OPEN

Mon. to Fri., 9am to noon  
Saturday, Sunday, 9am to 3pm  
Monday to Friday, 6:30pm to 8:30 pm

# CONTACT INFORMATION

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