

# The Lamplighter too

## Raffle Winners

Winners of the special raffle to sponsor the gala testimonial for Katie Verna were: 1. Another Printer (Philips stereo vertical cd micro system). 2. Student Ronald Diaz (Magnavox DVD player). 3. Student Rey Simon (One basket with ladies items). 4. Student Alejandra Vega (socket wrench set). 5. Student David Rodriguez (Spanish-English translator). 6. Tutor Marge Wisniewski (One tote bag with two dictionaries, paper and pencils).

The raffle raised close to \$1000.

## Happy to Learn

Hi, my name is Luis Landa.

I want to talk about my history. I have been in this country for 3 years and I didn't speak English. Also I didn't understand anybody. I had problems with the language.

My aunt told me about Barbara Green, and we went to the Literacy Council of Bonita Springs to ask for a teacher. 30 days after she called us and we made appointment in my house. Since that day I started learning English and have communication with the people. I'm very happy with her, because she is a very good person and very patient and she helps me a lot to speak English.

I'm glad that she helps me a lot to speak English. I'm glad that she is my teacher and to be at the Literacy Council. She is the best woman I ever met in the United States.

Thanks,

Luis Landa

Barb Green, tutor

## Continued Achievement

Jorge Galvan, a student from August 1999 to September 2000, left the Council's program to study for his GED. He then completed his four-year study to be an Apprentice Electrician in June 2006. In September 2006, Jorge passed the licensing exam to become a licensed electrician. He is now moving to Raleigh NC. His family, especially his mother-in-law Katie Verna, is extremely proud of his success.



July, August, September, 2006

Published quarterly

## More Than A Friendly Hand

I believe that you will agree when I say we need many things when arriving to a new country: a place to live, a job, school for our children, medical support for our family, a church and many other things.

It is easy? It is difficult?

That depends on our effort.

After two months living in this country, I understood the necessity of studying English. I still remember the first day that I went to the Literacy Council and the great way that I was welcomed. It's true; there I found a good method to learn English: material, videos, computers, books, everything I needed to help me learn.

Thanks to Katy Verna for accepting me in the program: you are an excellent person. Thanks to my tutors.

Jay and Karen for teaching with patience; for support, Kerty, and Joe Kirkup for his help also.

Now I have been living in the U. S for a year; after 9 months learning at the Literacy Council I have a job in a public school in Naples as Teacher's Assistant.

When I talk with someone about English I say: would you like to teach it? Please go to the Literacy Council, we need tutors, or would you like to learn English? You can attend classes at a gorgeous place named The Literacy Council in Bonita Springs. Go, go and you will find more than a new Language: you will find a friendly hand.

Doris Daza

Colombia

### OFFICE STAFF & SCHEDULE

Susan Acuña, Executive Director  
Diego Grisales, Program Director  
Gerty Reiterer Crespo, Office Manager  
Monday to Friday: 9:00 to 5:00 pm

Jeanne Sachs, Student/Tutor Coordinator  
Nora Martinez, Assistant Coordinator  
Monday to Friday: 5:00 to 9:00 pm

### STUDENT COMPUTER LAB

Monday to Friday, 9am to 9pm

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Address: 27308 Old 41 Road  
Bonita Springs, FL 34135

website: [www.bonitaliteracy.org](http://www.bonitaliteracy.org)  
email: [bonitaliteracy@comcast.net](mailto:bonitaliteracy@comcast.net)  
phone: (239) 495-0999  
fax: (239) 495-0071

# The Inca Empire

About more than 3000 years ago a big civilization called The Incas Empire was developed in South America. As many civilizations in the world, this one left as a heritage many of its customs, traditions and culture that nowadays still remain, as well as architectural rests, such as Machu Picchu, an ancient city considered one of the wonders in the world.

Named Tahuantinsuyo, a sort of a state, or which today we would call country, they established Cusco, located in the highlands of Peru, as the capital, extending its empire along Ecuador—where the Inca (who was the head of the empire) had another center for military affairs, (located in the city of Quito)—Bolivia and Chile.

According to history, there were 13 Incas that governed the empire, since Manco Capac and Mamma Ocllo, a couple that many Peruvian stories and legends talk about in the Inca's period, founded that empire.

The agriculture, the way of constructing their buildings, the social organization and the knowledge about the stars and specially the sun (Inti) are some of the most highlighted aspects in this culture.

Before the Incas were conquered by the Spaniards, they had the "Quechua" as a language and had as a religion the adoration to the sun, some animals and the earth, which they called "pachamama". They used the "quipus", a kind of strings of wool from different colors with knots in them put together in a large string for accounting, reading and teaching.

It is said that because of diseases, the internal wars and when the Spaniards arrived in South America (by that time almost 90 percent of the people were gone), the Incas civilization was extinguished. But the new era with new religion and modernity had arrived. Today Spanish is the official language, together with the Quechua which people from the highlands, whose ancestors were the Incas, speak and try to teach to others.

It is worth to mention that recent studies say that the Peruvian culture has an age between 18 and 20 thousand years B.C., which would change all its history. Many cultures were before the Incas, one of them was located in the coast, which would be older than the Maya, Egyptian or Mesopotamian.

Gladys Krause (nationality: peruvian)

# Learning English

When I arrived at Literacy on August 2004, I didn't know how to speak and read English, but after twelve months I felt satisfied with what the Literacy Council had given to me.

I met my Teacher Pat Del Giorno, who had taught me the present, past and the future of the more important English verbs (to be, to have), also the subject pronouns, the possessive, time expressions; she taught me to know my neighborhood, my school, to communicate with my boss in the work, with people in the store, in the mail office, in the restaurant.

She taught me to say thank you. Thanks to the people of Literacy: Norita, Jeanne, Katie, Professor Amilcar, Rosa and every teacher. They don't know how big the help is they give to the students and the importance it is for us in our lives.

Now I met the teachers Bob and Laureen I will learn more. Now I know how the American people help with love and gentleness.

Thank you very much to Literacy Council.

Reynaldo Bernal, Perú

# Voices of Students

Mi nombre es Gilverto Hernandez Nolasco, soy de Chiapas México.

Llegué Estados Unidos hace un año. Vi por los anuncios que si alguien se interesaba en aprender Inglés podia venire a Literacy Council. Desde entonces commence a recibir clases y hasta el momento soy un alumno de Literacy Council. Puedo comprobar que he mejorado poco a poco en mi trabajo como en mi vida cotidiana, Tambien es bonito porque puedes hacer amistades con diferentes personas de otros lugares. Los profesores nos tartan muy bien, espero que siga asi para que mas estudiantes sigan asistiendo a las clases.

Hello my name is José Rios. I'm from Durango Mexico I've been came to this school to this school for a month. I am happy because every day I am learning new words and it is easier to communicate. When I go shopping I try to speak in English and it seems like I'm improving.

I hope people from other countries when they come here they should come to school as soon as they arrive. Because they can get good jobs and they can feel secure.

Mi experiencia creo que es similar a la de la mayoría de las personas que cruzamos la frontera, cansados de vivir pobreza en México. Decidi probar suerte y venire a USA.

Al llegar a USA me di cuenta que si no se el idioma es muy dificil encontrar trabajo y se empiza a sufrir la discriminación por parte de algunos americanos y a veces tambien por parte de nuestros paisanos.

Decidi estudiar Inglés y encuentre a Literacy Council. Desde que asisto a las clases en Literacy Council me siento mas comodo en este pais, me he convencido que si puedo aprender ingles y superarme en los Estados Unidos.

Gracias, Literacy Council.

Fernando Rodriguez, Mexico

Antes que nada quiero darles las gracias a todas las personas que hacen posible que nosotros los hispanos aprendamos Inglés. Gracias por ternos paciencia. Tengo poco tiempo aprendiendo Inglés, pero ese poco tiempo me ha servido para aprender cosas que me ayudan en mi vida diaria. Nuevamente muchas gracias por querernos ayudar, ya que sin su ayuda no podriamos aprender lo valioso que es el Inglés para salir adelante en el trabajo y en nuestra vida. Gracias también por su generosidad y apoyo.

Guillermo Espinosa

# Get your L.C. T-shirt, \$10.

Great artwork by student Ruben Figueroa. Support the Literacy Council's Building Fund.