

The Lamplighter too

A quarterly newsletter by and for the students of the
Literacy Council of Bonita Springs
January, February, March 2006

English as a Second Language

I would like to thank the Literacy Council for the great job they are doing helping people who want to learn English. I specially want to express my gratefulness for assisting me in study and suggesting that I write this article.

It is important for people who wish to learn English to start as soon as possible and not delay. Making the decision to learn and having self confidence are the two principal foundation rocks to build on. Then you can reinforce the foundation with principles like perseverance. For this kind of help, the Literacy Council is a great guide.

The first time I went to the Literacy Council, I wasn't sure what to expect about how they would help me to improve my English. It was only a matter of few minutes to realize the intention of these caring people-sincere help for each person. They were very nice from the time I entered the door. First of all, they evaluate you as to the English level you're proficient, so they know where to start. They recommend aspects in which you have to work. They also have computer programs and books which are very helpful no matter in what level.

In my case, I had the pleasure to work with Ms. Paula Cohen, a very nice person with patience and really good passion to teach. She was a great help to me. We worked a lot in reading, talking, and grammar. You do not have to spend money to buy special materials, so that was not a problem. You can find learning materials wherever you want. For example, reading the daily newspaper and discussing it is a very good exercise. So there are no excuses to postpone learning English. You can have all the tools in your hands; you only have to use them.

Alonso La Rosa from Lima, Perú. Paula Cohen, tutor

Inglés Como Segundo Idioma

Me gustaría agradecer a "Literacy Council" por el gran trabajo que están haciendo. También me gustaría expresar mi agradecimiento por ayudarme en mi estudio y sugerirme escribir este artículo.

Es muy importante para las personas que desean aprender Inglés comenzar lo antes posible y no retrasarlo. Tener la decisión de aprender y confianza en sí mismos son las dos principales rocas para construir. Luego es cuando puedes reforzar esta base con otros principios como la perseverancia. Para ayuda tienes al "Literacy Council" un gran guía.

La primera vez que fui al "Literacy Council", no estaba seguro de que esperar acerca de cómo me podían ayudar a mejorar mi Inglés. Fué sólo cuestión de minutos para darme cuenta la verdadera intención de esta gente-Ayudar. Fueron muy buenos desde el momento en el que entre por esa puerta. Primero que nada, te toman un pequeño examen para saber en que nivel estas y poder tener algo con que empezar a trabajar. Te recomendarán aspectos que tienes que trabajar. También tienen programas de computadora y libros que son de mucha ayuda, no importando en el nivel que estés.

En mi caso, tuve el agrado de trabajar con la Srta. Paula, una linda persona que con paciencia y con una verdadera pasión en enseñar. Fue una gran ayuda para mí. Trabajamos haciendo mucha lectura, conversación y gramática. No tienes que invertir mucho dinero en comprar materiales especiales, entonces eso no es un problema. Puedes encontrar material para aprender en cualquier sitio. Por ejemplo, leer el periódico diario y discutirlo, es un muy buen ejercicio. Entonces no hay excusa para posponer el aprender Inglés. Puedes tener todas las herramientas en las manos, sólo tienes que usarlas.

Alonso La Rosa de Lima, Perú. Paula Cohen, tutor



OFFICE SCHEDULE

Katie Verna, Program Director
Kerty Reiterer, Office Assistant
Monday to Friday: 9:00 to 5:00 pm

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

website: www.bonitaliteracy.org

STUDENT COMPUTER LAB

Monday to Friday, 9am to 9pm

CONTACT INFORMATION

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New Student Council

On Sunday, March 19, at 10:30 am in the Literacy Council's Office, the students elected the Student Council. The officers are:

President	Jorge Trejo
Vice-President	Ruben Figueroa
Treasurer	Rey Simon
Attorney General	José Arellano
Secretary	Lorena García

The Student Council gives students a voice in the administration of The Literacy Council. Students can bring issues to their representatives and the representatives can take the issues to the administration.

Valentine's Day Party

On February 12 the Literacy Council hosted another wonderful party celebrating St Valentine's Day. It was a get-together of students, tutors, staff and families from the Literacy Council. We shared a very special moment, getting to taste the different foods of participating countries like the United States, Guatemala, México, Cuba, Colombia, Venezuela and El Salvador.

There were raffles of ladies and gentlemen's articles, books for kids and adults, and two bicycles donated by tutor Charles Hopkins. We gave away toys to the kids that were present and prizes to the winners of the contests. It was a fun afternoon.

The mother and children as well as their families of the Moms & Tots Program at Manna Christian could go to the party, thanks to Good Wheels that sent a bus for their transportation to and from the party. They were accompanied by teacher Bob Sorenson.

We enjoyed the music and dances between students and tutors. Some students gave a thank-you message in English to the Literacy Council.

Before the party ended, the raffle of two computers was done from the tickets sold by the Literacy Council days before. The two fortunate winners were students Daniel Garcia, who wasn't present but was informed by phone, and David Rodríguez. Congratulations to both!
"THANK YOU, EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED"

Student Party April 23

A student party will be held Sunday, April 23, from 4 to 7pm to help raise funds to network the lab's EASY (English Academic Success for You) program. A raffle will offer a TV/VCR/DVD with 5 DVD set, two computers and a bicycle donated by a tutor. Raffle tickets are \$2. If you want to attend, talk to Nora or Kerty and come to the planning meetings.

A Good Job

Since I found the Literacy Council my life is changed. I studied English and found a good job. I am very happy with the Literacy Council. They are the best. Thanks to the Literacy Council and to all of them who work in it.

Mirsada Bajraktarevic, student. Vincent Carosella, tutor.

Concejo de Estudiantes

El día Domingo 19 de Marzo del 2006 a las 10:30 am. se reunieron los estudiantes en las Oficinas de Literacy Council para elegir al Concejo de Estudiantes, siendo nominados:

Presidente	Jorge Trejo
Vice-Presidente	Ruben Figueroa
Tesorero	Rey Simon
Fiscal	José Arellano
Secretaria	Lorena García

El Concejo de Estudiantes será la voz de los estudiantes ante la Administración de Literacy Council. Los estudiantes pueden traer sus inquietudes al Concejo de Estudiantes y ellos exponerlos ante la Administración.

Fiesta de la Amistad

El día 12 de Febrero celebramos otra maravillosa fiesta por el Día del Amor y la Amistad. Fué un encuentro entre alumnos, Tutores, empleados y familiares de Literacy Council. Compartimos un momento muy especial, degustando las diferentes comidas de cada país que participó como: Estados Unidos, Guatemala, Mexico, Cuba, Colombia, Venezuela y El Salvador.

Se realizaron rifas entre los participantes, los premios fueron artículos para damas y caballeros, libros para adultos y niños y dos bicicletas donadas por el professor Charles Hopkins. Se entregó juguetes a los niños presentes.

También se otorgaron regalos a los ganadores de los concursos realizados. Fué una tarde muy divertida.

Las madres y los niños, estudiantes del programa de Moms & Tots de Manna Christian, así como sus familiares, pudieron asistir gracias a la compañía Good Wheels que les envió un autobus para el transporte de ida y vuelta a la fiesta. Ellos llegaron acompañados por el profesor Bob Sorenson.

Disfrutamos de música y bailes entre alumnos y Tutores. Algunos estudiantes dieron mensajes de agradecimiento a Literacy Council en Inglés.

Antes de finalizar la fiesta se realizó la rifa de las dos computadoras de los tickets vendidos por Literacy Council. Los afortunados ganadores fueron los alumnos, Daniel Garcia quien no se encontraba presente y se le informó telefónicamente y David Rodriguez. Felicitaciones para ellos.

GRACIAS A TODOS POR SU PARTICIPACION.

My Cat Boo

Once I had a little cat. His name was Boo. He was a very good cat. But he sometimes was a very messy cat. That little cat was a mom. That mom was a very good mom. And that is the end of this story.

Andrea Valdez, age 8. Bob Sorenson, reading tutor