

The Lamplighter too

A newsletter by and for the students of the
Literacy Council of Bonita Springs
October, November, December 2007

Published quarterly

Students Tell Their Personal Stories

Thanks to Literacy Council I have learned the following in the last six months, cursive, budgeting, savings, account vocabulary, pen pals, email in English, write checks, write stories and write paragraphs. I want to give thanks to my teacher Ms. Betty Avery, she is not only a wonderful teacher, but he has become a very special friend to me. Learning English is changing my life, I can communicate easier with the people at my work. I can help my kids with their homework. I can watch TV in English and I like to hear English music too. My English classes are helping me to going from Teacher's AIO to a Teacher. This has increased my income. This has helped me to start saving for a down payment to buy a house.

Thanks again and God Bless you.
Roxana Virgen

Christmas 2007

On Christmas, my family and I went to our friend's house. There were many people at the Christmas party. I cooked Barbacoa and Bunuelos. My husband's cousin cooked Tamales and my friend made Ponche. Everyone ate a lot.

The kids were funny in the bounce house. Then at 12:00 everyone got the presents. Then we went to sleep.

Maria Marquez,
Moms and Tots class, Old 41

My Life and My Dreams

Chapter I, The Story of My Family

My name is Benito Ramos Hernández. I was born in Tlaxiaco Oxaca, Mexico. I grew up in San Juan Mixtepec, town village. It's a native indigenous where many people do not speak Spanish. They speak a dialect called Mixteco.

We have the tradition of June twenty fourth the San Juan holiday. I have there sisters and two brothers. My older brother's name is Cipriano and he is married. He has two children one boy and one girl. My second brother's name is Manuel, he is unmarried. My sister's name is Martina, she is not married. My other sister name is Antonia, she has one boy. My younger sister's name is Imelda, she is married and has one girl. I am the last boy, I am eighteen years old.

My mother's name is Margarita, she is still alive, but my father died when I was one year old. My plans for when I return to my village is to have a shop store.

My school's name is C.I.S. Centro Integración Social #20. I went there for six years. My favorite class was Spanish and Physical Education. My favorite teacher was Mr. Ever Ojeda, because every weekend we would go out and he would lend me his car. I'm not married and have no children.

OFFICE STAFF & SCHEDULE

Susan Acuña, Executive Director
Diego Grisales, Program Director
Kerty Reiterer-Crespo, Office Manager
Monday to Friday: 9:00 am 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, 9:00 am to 9:00 pm

CONTACT INFORMATION

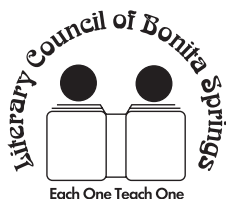
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2008 Tutor Workshops

February 16 and 23, 2-5 pm at Hope Lutheran Church
March 19 and 26, 9 am-12 noon, TBA
April 14 and 16, 9 am-12 noon, TBA
May 17 and 24, 2-5 pm at Bentley Village
June 16 and 18, 9 am-12 noon, TBA
July 19 and 26, 2-5 pm, TBA
August 18 and 20, 9 am-12 noon, TBA
September 13 and 20, 2-5 pm, TBA
October 20 and 22, 9 am-12 noon, TBA
November 8 and 15, 2-5 pm, Bentley Village
December 8 and 10, 9 am-12 noon, TBA

Let's Practice Spanish!

We have had many friends and neighbors who have taken Spanish classes at the Literacy Council, but who've mentioned they don't have much opportunity to practice what they've learned. We have great news for those wanting to practice Spanish. We have begun an informal Spanish conversation group which meets on Fridays at 5 pm at the Literacy Council. Group members are encouraged to share experiences and information about the Spanish language, customs, culture and regional costumes.

This 1-hour group is led by a Spanish professor and some native Spanish speakers. So bring your dictionary and join us for a lively group to help encourage improvement of your Spanish skills.

Thanks to Volunteers

Once again this Christmas season, volunteers from the Literacy Council gift-wrapped presents at Barnes & Noble Booksellers at Coconut Point. Thanks to the generosity of customers at the store, the Literacy Council received \$281. Thanks, volunteers!

Wanted: Website Assistance

The Literacy Council is looking for a volunteer who can help us make regular updates to our website. Please call Susan at the Council if you are interested.

23 Students Graduate

LEVEL I

October 2007

Mary & David Burns' Group

Juana Gómez
Felimón Gómez
Emilio López Soto
Catalina Sarmiento
Lucas Salvador
Enrique Garcia
Ismael Ortiz

November 2007

Brenda Sperry, tutor

Maria Castillo

LEVEL II

November 2007

Dreda Amey's Group

Rolando Godinez
Alejandro De León
Samuel Simón
Eusebio Gaspar
Edgar Zunun
Carlos Pérez
Luis Barrios
Ubaldo López
Dario Barrios
Imer Garcia
Reymundo Paz

Ugo Assi, tutor

Miguel Alonso

December 2007

Walter Buhrmann, tutor

Dora Alfaro
Mauricio Barrientos

Barbara Bachman, tutor

Graciela Lujan