

The Lamplighter too

A newsletter by and for the students of the
Literacy Council of Bonita Springs
April, May, June 2008
Published quarterly

Student's Story

Hello! My name is Erick Montes de Oca. I'm from México City. The first time that I came to Bonita Springs was during summer break, while I was studying at my University in México. Expecting to do something productive that summer, I tried to work, but there was something very important that I had to do first: "learn a new language." That was how I knew about Literacy Council. I'm an accountant, I like numbers very much, but I have another passion. I painted since I was a child. I love to create new things and each time that I can, I search the way to reflect my feelings and thoughts in the things that I paint or do.

I like to keep learning to become better each day, besides my English classes, I try to learn more about art, and the different ways to express it. I love to work and I love to spend time with my family. My dream is to show my artwork around the world, share it with everybody and be known.

Many persons have died though the years, some of them very famous, but they are not lost to the world, they are well known and will always be remembered, no matter how many years pass by. I would like to be one of them, be remembered for someone in a hundred years.

Now, I can write this letter, probably there are many mistakes in it and I'm sorry about that, but at least I can write now. Believe me, when I came the first time, I didn't know anything, just to say hello! Although each day issues new doubts and questions, I "don't give up (this phrase taught to me by Mrs. Ingrid Clauson). I would like to thank a great wonderful woman that every Monday dedicates

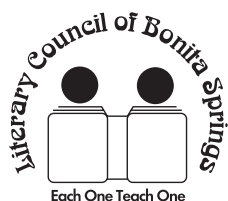
a valuable time to help others that need to speak English. Thanks Mrs. Ingrid Clauson for all your time, patience, dedication, knowledge; for all your labor. God bless you teacher! Thanks, Literacy Council for the opportunity you give to many people to improve their lives learning a second language, thanks for all your labor and support.

God bless you!

Erick Montes de Oca

Jeff Gibson's Farewell

Jeff's Advance Class threw him a party (farewell) on April 17, 2008. The students brought mostly food that was typical of their country. They prepared a spelling test for him – as he had done so often for them. All had a very good time. In Jeff's own words: "I taught the 'Advanced Class' from November 2006 to April 2008. This has been one of my most important life experiences. No teacher could have been blessed more than I was with the group of students I had in this class. It was very rewarding to me to have been in the midst of these women and men working to better themselves – they supported each other, were not afraid to undertake difficult tasks, were grateful for the help they received, and were a loving, friendly group. No teacher could ask for a better situation. I'm grateful to have been part of their time together. Sincerely yours, Jeffry R. Gibson"



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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Welcome, New Students

During the last three months (April, May and June), The Literacy Council has welcomed 126 new students. They attended our orientation meetings held each month.

New U.S. Citizens

Carlos López, Chantal Matthews, tutor
Rigoberto Martinez, Chantal Matthews, tutor
Maria Silva, Marilyn Fenton, tutor
Henry Gonzalez and Leda Gonzalez, Eileen Galvin, tutor

26 Complete Tutor Training

April 14, 16, Literacy Council

Andrea Smith, trainer

Phyd Lentz
Glo Roche
Pat Seges
Joyce Sopko
Linda Summers

May 17, 24, Bentley Village

Andrea Smith, trainer

Carol Baytos
Gayle Carson
Sarah Chadha
Sharon Clausen
Daniel Conway
Terry Fatt
Betty Graf
Mary Lou Hudson
Lynn Humphries
John McCarthy
Rose Marie Miner
Jill Sterner
Lindsey Wright

June 16, 18, Literacy Council

Andrea Smith, trainer

Regina Arslanian
Norma Ballew
Robert Ballew
Lana Barbuto
Cynthia Bothwell
Christine Oakey
Russell Peterson
Hepzibeth Stendal

27 Students Graduate

Sandy Scoggins's Group, Level I

Maria Cruz, Yolanda Ruiz, Maynor Decker,
Santiago Pu y Pu, Oscar Solis, José Ruiz

One-on-One Students

Level I

María Mendoza, Donna Sandler, tutor
Misael Martinez, Anne Roush, tutor – Worthington CC
Rudy López, Bob Hobbs, tutor – Worthington CC
Amilcar Calvac, Alys Morande, tutor
Luz Stella Correa, Mary Sue Kamen, tutor
Francisco Cordero, Dan Roush, tutor
Erick Montes de Oca, Ingrid Clauson, tutor
Francisco Alfaro, Carol Hughes, tutor
Onelio Flores, Sally Smith, tutor
Rosa Sánchez, Elizabeth Newton, tutor – Palmira CC
Augustin Zavaleta, Denzil A. Sequeira, tutor
Nancy Espinoza, Brenda Sperry, tutor
Diana Agudelo, Brenda Sperry, tutor
Beatriz Ulloa, Gar Evers, tutor

Level II

Gladys Figueroa, Herbert Damman, tutor –
Bentley Village
Guadalupe Baltazar, Lucille Schmidt, tutor
Miguel Reyes, Patricia Suwyn, tutor
Margarita López, Danna Sandler, tutor
Mario Pérez, Signe Winters, tutor

Level III

Monica González, Shirley Sheffer, tutor

Level IV

Grace Martinez, Ellen Full, tutor

Thanks to Volunteers

Many thanks to the following students who helped to make our groundbreaking event a success: Margarita Solis, Pedro Albino, Roberto Velasquez, Mauricio Barrientos, Dionicio Gomez, and Jorge Reyes.