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December, 2000

## It's that wonderful time of year...

when sleigh bells ring, snowflakes fall (we hope), decorations appear on every doorway and people rush around crossing items off their shopping lists. Oh yes, and literacy volunteers reliably meet with their learners and share the joy of the season.

We've also been busy crossing things off our to-do list and working hard to improve our services to you, our tutors, and our learners. As you can tell by the new, spiffed-up format of this newsletter, LVCC has new computers (hooray)!! This means our print materials as well as our ability to track our learners progress will improve. Here's a list of some of our other accomplishments:

- \* Community Resource list updated (included in this mailing)
- \* Learner re-assessments underway (more on that below)
- \* Trained new tutors (welcome!)

Now we're planning for Winter/Spring...

## Join the Team

***We need more tutors!!*** We currently have a short waiting list of learners and will be recruiting more learners in January. Please refer any friends, family or neighbors who might be interested in tutoring to us at 556-0313. The next Orientation for new tutors will be January 20, 10:00am-12:00pm at APS. Training will occur January 27 and February 3, 2001. **If you refer a tutor who completes training you will receive a \$20 gift certificate to Bookmans.** You can also support LVCC by bringing yourself, your learner and a friend to any of the events listed on the other side of this newsletter.

## More Tutor Space Available

Beginning in January, we will have 3 new locations available in the community for tutors. Call Sandy at 556-0313 for details and available times.

## How do you measure success?

Thank you to all tutors who helped to facilitate our recent learner re-assessments. We have completed about half of those who are due for re-assessment. We will be contacting you and/or your learner after January 2 to schedule the remaining re-assessments. **Kathy Weisensel and Sandi Jasso**, two of our star tutors, are being trained to give our assessments. Thank you Kathy and Sandi!!

Why do we need to re-assess? First, we all want to know. LVCC staff, tutors and learners alike are interested in the progress made and how lives are changed. Second, our funders want to know how our services help our clients. Improvement in assessment scores is one way to demonstrate progress. In addition, statements from the learners themselves are very powerful. During the re-assessment process many of our learners have told us about their increased self-confidence at home, at work and in the community. Improved literacy and conversational English opens many doors for our learners. It's a gift we all can share. To hear more from you, our tutors, and our learners we have included with this newsletter a **Learner Progress Report**. **Please complete the report with your learner and mail/fax to LVCC by Jan. 12.** *If you are interested in discussing your learners' re-assessment results and progress, please call Sandy Ryan at 556-0313.*

## Shonto Begay

Have you always hoped to display an original painting by local Navajo artist Shonto Begay in your home? Well, now you have an opportunity. Shonto's painting, **"Solitude in Pink"**, is currently being raffled with proceeds to benefit LVCC. **Raffle tickets are \$20** each and available at LVCC or the public library. The painting will be displayed at the public library until the drawing on March 31.

## Kudos to Tutors/Volunteers

Special thanks to the following tutors who gave extra time and energy to LVCC:

**Jamie Booth** – Give the Gift of Literacy (children's literature collection)

**Harriet Brown** – LVA materials critique

**Joyce Browning, Laura Bohland** – each tutor a married couple (more work, but twice the fun!)

**Esther Char** – donating tutoring space

**Pat Cochrane** – Represents LVCC at Adult Center once per month

**Ana Flores** – tutor, LVCC Board member, coordinating Spelling Bee committee

**Jean Hockman** – tutor, LVCC Board member, coordinating LVA Accreditation process

**Sandi Jasso** – tutoring three learners, helping with learner assessments

**Virgil Mathes** – wrote essay on his learners' success; to be published in Flag Live

**Randi Reppen** – LVCC Board member, workshop presenter, donating classroom space at NAU

**Kathy Weisensel** – helping with learner assessments

**All tutors** – changing lives through literacy!

## Community Connections

We have revised our **Community Resources List** and include a copy with this newsletter. If you know of any other community services that would be appropriate for tutors to know, please call LVCC and we'll add it to the list.

**News:** Annual Phantom Dinner to benefit **Northern Arizona Senior Volunteer** program will occur in January and February. Call LVCC at 556-0313 for details.

**Catholic Social Service** offers counseling services by a certified counselor on a sliding fee scale (no one is turned away). Families, couples, individuals or groups. Call them directly at 774-9125.

## Wish List

LVCC has need for the following items. If you have or can locate one of these to be donated to LVCC, please call Ann Beck or Sandy Ryan.

**Slide projector**

**Computer cart**

**Scanner**

We're also hoping to find a **new office** location. If you know of an appropriate, available space, please call Ann Beck at 556-0313.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### JANUARY

**Wed., 10** – Tutor Workshop: Materials Exchange

6:30 – 9:00pm, APS Meeting Room

Bring your tutoring ideas and experiences to share with other tutors. Meet and learn from other tutors in an informal atmosphere. Call LVCC to confirm your attendance by Jan. 5.

**Wed., 17** – Learner Workshop:

Rita Maria Magdaleno

6:30-8:30pm, Adult Center

Tucson author, Rita Maria Magdalena, will host an event for our learners. She will draw stories from the audience, creating a memory book for all participants. [This is a great opportunity for our learners!](#) Please plan to attend with your learner and bring your photos and memories. Call LVCC by Jan. 10 to confirm your attendance.

**Thurs., 18** – Flagstaff Reads presents:

Tucson author, Rita Maria Magdaleno

7:00pm, Coconino Center for the Arts

"Cuentos y Memorias: Mexican-Americans in Miami, Arizona 1920's-1940's" was a nine-month collaborative oral history project developed into a traveling exhibit. Describing the oral history process, Ms. Magdaleno examines the oral history tradition as a way to preserve culture and community. Literary reading and slide presentation. Free to the community.

**Sat., 20** – New Tutor Orientation (mandatory)

10:00am–Noon, APS Meeting Room

**Sat., 27** – New Tutor Training

9:30am-3:30pm, APS Meeting Room

### FEBRUARY

**Sat., 3** – New Tutor Training

9:30am-3:30pm, APS Meeting Room

**Sat., 10** – Tutor Workshop: How to Teach Grammar

time and location to be announced

NAU professor and LVCC Board Member Randi Reppen will provide a workshop on teaching grammar for tutors. Time and location to be announced. Call LVCC for more information.

### MARCH

Workshop topic: Cultural Considerations

March 30 – April 1: Northern Arizona Book Festival

### APRIL

**New Tutor Orientation and Training:** [evening sessions](#)

### MAY

**Thurs., 3** – Mountain Bee, 2001

A fun-filled "adult" spelling bee/fundraiser. Stay tuned for more information.