

# LVCC Reader

FALL 2003

## Board Members

2003-2004

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## Upcoming Events

Tutor Appreciation Bkfst.  
Nov. 15, 9:00am-11:00am

Polar Express Orientation  
Nov. 15, 11:00am-1:00pm

Polar Express Practice Run  
Nov. 19th or 20th

Polar Express Fundraiser  
Dec. 11-15

Happy Holidays  
Everyone!

January: Orientation  
February: Training

## LVCC is Growing by Leaps and Bounds!

The numbers are in and they are impressive. Last year (July 1, 2002-June 30, 2003) LVCC tutors taught 36% more adult learners than the year before, investing 6,689 hours of service. We thought you might be interested in this synopsis.

### LEARNERS

Basic Literacy	24
ESOL	134
<b>Total</b>	<b>158</b>

### Sex

Male	49
Female	109

### Age

16-24	23
25-44	99
45-59	30
60+	4
NA	2

### Ethnicity

Afr. Amer.	4
Latino	117
White	12
Native	7
Asian	17
NA	2

About half of our learners have a high school degree or better, and nearly 70% are employed. All of our tutors have high school degrees and 94% have some college. A third have graduate degrees! Two-thirds of our tutors are employed and 16% are retired. What a great snapshot of our community!

### TUTORS

142

### Sex

Male	36
Female	106

### Age

16-24	10
25-44	54
45-59	49
60+	25
NA	4

### Ethnicity

Afr. Amer.	2
Latino	7
White	127
Native	2
NA	4

## Building Ladders To Literacy

We are starting our year with a fresh coat of paint and a shiny new Mission Statement.

*“The mission of Literacy Volunteers of Coconino County is to help adults achieve their goals, strengthen personal dignity and build community connections by providing basic English language and literacy tutoring with trained volunteers.”*

We welcome new Board Members and new and returning tutors as we continue to build ladders to literacy all over the community. Our beautiful David Grandon mural is undergoing repairs; come see the finished product at the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast Saturday, November 15th.



## Literacy Volunteers Sponsors Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride

On September 24th, 87 immigrants from Los Angeles and Las Vegas arrived in Flagstaff as part of the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride. Inspired by the 1960s Freedom Rides of the Civil Rights Movement, the new freedom ride focused on immigrant workers' rights in four areas: a clear path to citizenship, worker rights for all, family reunification and civil rights and liberties for all.

The day was a great success. A coalition of community, religious and university groups, interested and aware of the importance of helping immigrants achieve basic rights, joined together to make it happen. The riders were greeted by NAU's Mariachi musicians and fed a box lunch. County Supervisor, Liz Archuleta welcomed the group telling of her own family's immigrant story and vision for equality. The riders erupted into chants of "Sí se puede! Yes, it can be done!"

Kara Kelty, Flagstaff City Councilwoman, read a proclamation signed by Mayor Joe Donaldson in support of the ride and named September 24<sup>th</sup> Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride Day. Two riders then spoke passionately of the movement's principles and told their own stories. The standing-room only audience listened silently with respect. The next moment, however, tears and shouts for justice overtook the room in response to the stories of two of Flagstaff's own immigrants who told of abuse at work and local immigration fraud. One speaker told the audience that United States immigration laws prevented her from attending the funeral of her younger sister, even though she

and her son have full legal status, because at this stage in her citizenship process she is not allowed to spend time outside the US.

The hour-long ceremony concluded with religious leaders of various denominations leading prayers and blessing the bus riders. The room was full of optimism and enthusiasm as the group room left chanting, "Sí se puede! Sí se puede!" creating a civil rights movement for the 21st century.

In Washington, DC the riders met with members of congress, who expressed their support of the ride and the need for immigration reform. Finally, on October 4th, the riders arrived in New York for a rally of more than 100,000 immigrants and their supporters. For more information visit the ride's website at [www.iwfr.org](http://www.iwfr.org), where you can even see a video clip of Flagstaff's event. Photos by tutor Vennie White.



Riders sing songs for freedom.



Locals pledge civic participation.



Mariachis serenade the crowd.



Singing inside the event.

## Become A Tutor Trainer Trainee

We just finished a busy two weeks of training two new groups of tutors, one on Saturdays and the other on Mondays and Wednesdays. In addition to Ann and Laura, two tutors each taught a section of training as part of a new project to train tutors to help teach tutor training. We would like to expand this opportunity toward all of our tutors interested in bringing their tutor-

ing experiences and expertise to share with incoming tutors. Don't let worrying about what to teach stop you! We have designed a facilitator's guide and training program. Each new trainer begins with one section, following a guide and adding stories about personal tutoring experiences. Our next tutor training is February, 2004. Please call the office if you are interested!

## Re-certification Program Coming Soon

LVCC will begin a tutor re-certification program for all tutors who have been tutoring for a year or more. But don't worry, it's easy and we think you will find it painless. There are three ways to re-certify. You only have to choose one!

1. Attend an in-service workshop once every 12 months.
2. Fill out a self-evaluation form.
3. Invite a staff member to observe a tutoring session.

More information will be sent to you experienced tutors after the first of the year. Thanks for helping us keep our program at the peak of performance.

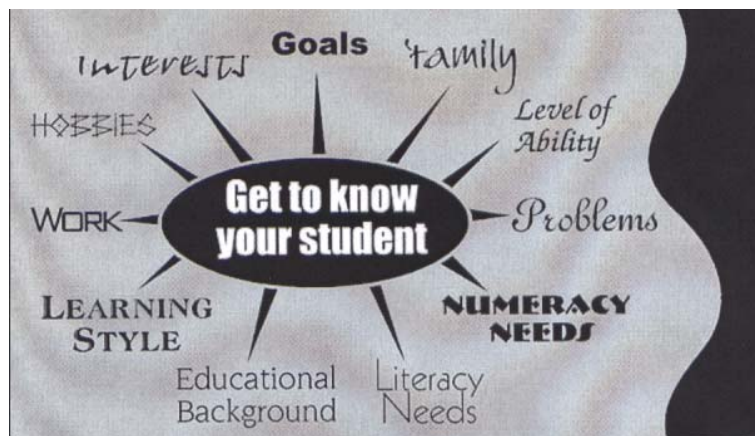
**CONSTRUCTION IS OVER!  
LIBRARY IS OPEN !**



## Teach With The Student Newsletter

In the last newsletter we inserted a student newsletter to be given to learners by tutors for the first time. The second edition is included here. Please give it to your learner at your next lesson and use it as part of the lesson. There is a form for a recipe that each learner can fill out and send to us, with your help. What a great writing exercise! Or, it can be used as a "learner experience", where you write what your learner dictates and then work on reading it together. We would like to create a multicultural LVCC cookbook with lots of delicious recipes. Do we smell a new fundraiser here?

## Are You Learner-Centered?



## Can You Raed Tihs?

Aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mttar in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoetnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be at the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by ist-lef, but the wrod as a wlohe.

## Using a Thesaurus

Help your student learn to use a Thesaurus to expand vocabulary. First, explain how a Thesaurus is like a dictionary and how it is different. Then have the learner read a short descriptive paragraph with some key words underlined. The learner writes down the underlined words, looks them up in the Thesaurus, and makes a column of synonyms for each word. After this, the learner should re-read

the paragraph and copy it, inserting a new word for each underlined word. Reading through the second time, there will be less hesitation. This exercise both increases vocabulary and improves reading skills as the learner re-reads the same paragraph several times. Some words do not have to change if another word does not make as much sense. Give it a try and let us know how it works!



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*Invitation Inside!*

*Changing lives  
through literacy*

## Take a Ride On the Polar Express!

The Polar Express is bigger and better than ever this year! LVCC has been chosen as one of three organizations to provide 100 volunteers to assist Grand Canyon Railways in Williams in making this year's ride on the Polar Express a memorable experience for guests. In return, LVCC will receive a donation of up to \$3000 from Grand Canyon Railways.

In order to get into the spirit, there are several important dates to remember:

**Orientation - Sat. Nov. 15th, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm**

A GCRR representative will be at LVCC to discuss details.

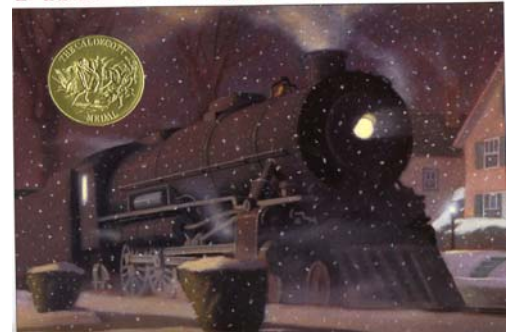
**Practice Run on The Train - Nov. 19th and 20th evenings**

This is an opportunity to practice reading 'The Polar Express' on the moving, dimly lit train, in Williams.

**Reading Dates - Thurs. Dec. 11th thru Mon. Dec. 15th**

2 trips to the North Pole each night. Carpool from Flagstaff at 5 pm and return to Flagstaff by around 10 pm or so.

THE POLAR EXPRESS



A timeless holiday classic written and illustrated by Chris Van Allsburg.

We need 20 volunteers each night in December—2 in each of 10 cars. One will read and the other will assist with handing out goodies and bells. Feel free to sign up as a 'twosome' if you'd like, and tell your friends! Don't forget to call us when you are ready to commit to dates!